

Little River Currents



MEGWAA EZHOWEBAAK *Binaakwe-Giizis (Falling Leaves Moon)*
October 2005, Vol. 2 Issue 10

ALSO IN THIS PUBLICATION

- P 2-3-4. 28 & 31
LRBOI NEWS
- P5
CULTURE
- SWEAT LODGE
- P 6
CASINO EVENTS CALENDAR
- P 7
COMMODITY NEWS
- P 8-9
Politics
- Mercury
- P 10
- HISTORY
- COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES
- P 11
GRANTS
- DEER GRANT
- P 12
COMMUNITY NEWS
- GOODY'S DONATES BOOKS
- P 13
- OGEMA
- UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
- P 14
LRBOI EVENTS
- DRIVERS' TRAINING
- SALMON SPEARING
- P 15
HEALTH CLINIC
- P 16-18
LRBOI EVENTS
- STURGEON RELEASE
- P 19
COMMUNITY NEWS
- HEALTH CONTINUED
- POLICE ACADEMY
PRESENTATION
- P 20-23
CULTURAL AWARENESS SURVEY
- P 23
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS
TRAINING
- P 21-22
COMMUNITY NEWS
- IRENE DICKMAN (ALLARD)
- CHARITY GOLF OUTING
- P 24
TRIBAL FINANCES
- P 25
BE-DA-BIN
- P 26
MEMBERS' ASSISTANCE
- P 27
CHS AND EHAP NEWS
- P 29
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- P 30
SUBMISSIONS



U.S. Department of the Interior

OGEMA LEE SPRAGUE APPOINTED NATIONAL BIA TRIBAL BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR



Ogema Sprague has been appointed as one of two tribal representatives from the Midwest Region to the National BIA Tribal Budget Advisory Committee (TBAC). This is a first time National Committee that was formed to provide direct input from tribes into the BIA's budget priorities. The TBAC was formed to provide direct input from tribes into the Bureau's budget priorities.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13
SEE - *OGEMA*

Nmé

2nd Annual Release

Story on page 16 - 18

MID-YEAR STATE OF THE TRIBES FINANCES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

Written by Duane Hopkins - CFO

As of June 30, 2005 the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians tribal government (LRBOI) is in a stable and financially strong position. Sufficient funds are available for operations, overall expenditures are at or below budgeted projections, significant reserve funds are set-aside for future initiatives, and casino revenues have exceeded projections for the first half of the year. In addition, improvements continue to be made on the daily functions of the various departments within the Finance Division while maintaining the support for ongoing governmental operations.

Financial Position:
At mid-year LRBOI had over \$15.4 million available for general operating expenditures of the government. An additional \$26.9 million was held in reserve for specific programs, operational reserves, and future tribal initiatives. These reserve funds included \$6.4 million in federal grant funds for various programs, a \$4.6 million per capita reserve fund, \$3.2 million from prior settlements and trust funds, and \$8.1 million in working capital reserve funds that would be available to supplement operating funds if needed. Distributions from the Little River Casino Resort for the 6 months ended June 30, 2005 exceeded projections by 8.6 percent, or over \$1 million.

Continued p 24



Little River Band of
Ottawa Indians
375 River St.
Manistee, MI 49660

Return Service Requested

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Manistee, MI

Announcing

Four New Regional Reservation Workshops

Sponsored and Presented by:
Tribal Council and The Office of the Ogema

Topic: Our 1836 & 1855 treaty Reservations and our Reservation Restoration Plan
An educational workshop about our 1836 and 1855 treaty Reservations,
the history of our land, and our Reservation Restoration plans

8:30 - 9:30 AM	Continental Breakfast
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Workshop
12:00 - 1:00	Bufffet Lunch
1:00 PM - 3:30 PM	Workshop
3:30 - 4:00	Raffle and Group Photo

To Register for the Workshops Call: 1-888-723-8288


Dates/Locations:

Saturday, October 1st	Muskegon, MI Holiday Inn	Saturday, October 22nd	Ann Arbor, MI Four Points Sheraton Inn
Saturday, October 8th	Harbor Springs, MI Little Traverse Bay Band Admin. Building	Saturday, November 5th	Green Bay, WI Oneida Radisson Inn

TRADITIONAL HEALER
Harlan Downwind

Traditional Practitioner Helper
Peggy Hemenway

September 21 and 22, 2005



Appointments available for IHS eligible Native Americans

Please call Julie Wolfe at (231)398-6632
regarding scheduling of appointments

Sponsored by Be-Da-Bin Behavioral Health and
The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Health Clinic

09/01/05 News Release

Natural Resource Department News
Bonnie Harnish, Administrative Assistant

**It is the Natural Resource Department’s
responsibility to issue the following permits
and hunting tags:**

Hunting and Fishing Regulations
Turkey Tags
Deer Tags
Tribal Disabled Hunter’s Permit
Commercial Trapping Permit
Commercial Gathering Permit
Life Time Sleeping Bear Pass
Manistee/Huron US Forest Service Pass to the
fishing access sites
Trespass permit for non-member family
members

**These permitis and tags are available at the
Natural Resource Department weekdays
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**Please help us by bringing your deer to our
DeerCheck Station
so the Biologist can monitor the deer herd
numbers and their general health.**

**Thank you to all who brought their deer in last
season, it was greatly appreciated and really
helps the Biologist do their job.**

LRBOI Toll Free Job Hotline
1-866-556-5660
For more information contact Alyce Giltz in Human Resources @ 1-888-723-8288

What does Nm   (the Sturgeon)
represent to the Anishinaabe?

I asked a few questions to those present at the Sturgeon re-
lease, one of them was “What would the Anishinaabe loose if
the sturgeon was to disappear?”

“The Sturgeon is culturally and spiritually important to the
Anishinaabe people. We are told through our stories of the
importance of the Nm   to the Anishinnaabe. My grandfather
once told me a story that when he was younger he would spear
‘sharks’ that were as old as elders and as big as a man. These
‘sharks’ would be found to come up the rivers in Manistee area.
He stated that they would do this every year and the commu-
nity as a whole would partake. At the time I did not know what
these ‘sharks’ were and believed it to be just a story. When I
moved back home to the Reservation here in Michigan I re-
alized that the sharks truly are Nm  . Every year myself and
others in the community have begun to spear fish that make
their life journey upstream and in the hope that our children of
the community will pass this tradition on. When asked why I
spear my response is that my grandfather did this practice and
his grandfather did before him and so on. We Anishinnaabe
are linked to the Nm   and other fish that make their journey
upstream.”

-Ryan L. Champagne

The Sturgeon represents the state of our Culture, barely surviv-
ing from the atrocities that have been committed against it, but
what remains is still beautiful and something to be proud of.

- Jimmie Mitchell

*More quotes on the Sturgeon Cultural Context coming in
the next edition of the Currents!*

Qualified Vendors Wanted:

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is
Requesting Proposals from:

- Mat/Linen Rental Service Providers
- Electric Repair and Service Providers
- HVAC Repair and Service Providers
- Office Supplies and Equipment Providers
- Bottled Water Supply and Service Providers
- Hardware and Maintenance Supply Providers

Questions regarding the quote and award
should be directed to:

Ms. Michelle Lucas, Purchasing Supervisor
toll free – (888) 723-8288
or e-mail mlucas@lrboi.com

Please Send Requests for Proposals to:

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
375 River Street
Manistee, MI. 49660

Attn.: Ms. Michelle Lucas

Elders' Coming Home
Conference

*The LRBOI Elders' Committee has set the date for the
Elders' Coming Home Conference.*

*The meeting will be held on
Thursday October 6th and Friday October 7th, 2005.*

*Applications have been mailed to the Elders. If you did
not receive one please call:*

*June Sam, Elder's Coordinator
231-398-6709
or 1-888-723-8288 Extension 6709.*

*We are pleased that the Michigan Indian Elders Assoc.
has seen fit to increase the number of college scholarships
for the year 2006. There is now one \$1,000.00 award and
six \$500.00 awards.
These are competetive scholarships that go directly to the
students.*

*The Elder's are also looking for more people to submit
bids for providing the meal at the Elder's monthly meet-
ing. Make the bid for supplying the food, cooking, and
kitchen clean up afterwards. Usually there are two meats,
potatoes or pasta, vegetable, bread, dessert, and some kind
of cold drink, we provide the coffee.*

Surplus Sale

Used Commercial Kitchen, Building,
Office, & Hotel Supplies

Little River Casino Warehouse
254 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660

Saturday, September 17th
9am-5pm

for Tribal Members Only

~

Friday, September 23rd
Saturday, September 24th
9am-5pm

for Tribal Members & General Public

TAX OFFICE - QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

If you have tax questions that you would like to have answered in upcoming editions of Little River Currents, please send them to: Barb Czarnecki, Tax Officer, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, 375 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660 or email them to: bczarnecki@lrboi.com.

Question # 1: I am a Tribal Member and I operate a small retail business within the Tax Agreement Area. Are there any tax benefits available for my business under the State/Tribal Tax Agreement?

Answer: Yes. Most of the tax benefits in the State/Tribal Tax Agreement apply only to “Tribal Entities” and/or businesses that are operated on “Tribal and Trust Land”. The Tribe has developed a Small Business Incentive Program that is designed to assist Tribal members locate their businesses on Tribal and Trust Lands to maximize their ability to take advantage of these benefits. You should contact Nita Guenthardt to learn more about that program. As an individual Tribal member business, regardless of whether your business is located on Tribal or Trust Lands, there are also sections of the Tax Agreement that apply if you are doing business with the Tribe, a Tribal Entity, or Resident Tribal Members. Call the tax officer at 231-398-6874 for more information on these exemptions.

Question # 2: I am a Tribal Member living in another state. I am thinking about moving to the Reservation. What tax benefits are available and what do I have to do to take advantage of them?

Answer: Tribal members who have Resident Tribal Member status are exempt from Michigan non-business income taxes and are eligible for the Resident Tribal Member Annual Sales Tax Credit and sales tax exemptions on utilities, vehicles, construction materials and other enumerated items (i.e., cars, boats, mobile or modular homes) per the Tax Agreement. To be a Resident Tribal Member you must live within the tax agreement area (which includes the Tribe’s 1836 Reservation in Manistee County and 1855 Reservation in Mason County) and be registered with the Tax Office. The state requires that you establish residency *before* you can take advantage of the exemptions. Call the tax officer at 231-398-6874 for more information.

SEVERAL GENERATIONS AGO,
OUR ANCESTORS WERE TAKEN FROM THEIR FAMILIES AND PLACED IN BOARDING SCHOOLS.
I KNOW THAT EVERYONE KNOWS THIS HOWEVER, THINK ABOUT THE HARM THIS HAS DONE SINCE.
SINCE, MANY OF THESE SCHOOLS WERE RUN LIKE MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS,
THE CHILDREN WERE NEVER TAUGHT HOW TO BE PARENTS.
CHILDREN LEARN FROM WATCHING OTHERS INTERACT, BEHAVE AND REACT.
SMALL CHILDREN IMITATE THESE ACTIONS AND SPEECH.
PHYSICAL DISCIPLINE WAS OFTEN USED IN THESE ENVIRONMENTS.
YOU DON’T LIKE A BEHAVIOR, YOU JUST HIT THE PERSON DISPLAYING IT.
THE MAJOR ESCAPE FROM THE NEGATIVE FEELINGS — LOW SELF ESTEEM — WAS ALCOHOL (NOW DRUGS).
IT IS ALSO CHARACTERIZED BY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.
FROM PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, IT IS USUALLY THE NON-NATIVE DOING THE VIOLENCE
(BOARDING SCHOOL SYNDROME).
TODAY, WE HAVE PEOPLE STILL CAUGHT UP IN THIS CYCLE.
THEY HAVE CHILDREN EXPERIENCING SOME VERY DIFFICULT LIFESTYLES.
YOU CAN HELP THE FAMILIES REGAIN SOME OF THEIR POWER.
KINSHIP AND FOSTER CARE WILL HELP SOME CHILD BECOME AN ADULT WHO CAN BREAK THIS CYCLE.
WE HAVE A NEED FOR CARING PEOPLE WHO ARE WILLING TO HELP SOME CHILDREN
BACK TO THE TRADITIONS OF THE PEOPLE — SHARING, CARING AND LOVE.

IF YOU ARE WILLING TO HELP

CONTACT BERNADENE CRAMPTON, INDIAN CHILD SPECIALIST
1-888-382-8299, EXTENSION 6707 OR LOCALLY 398-6707



Sweat Lodge



Sweat Lodge
By Susanne Iles

The information in this article is only a small portion of the many and extensive Native Teachings that exist. Teachings vary from First Nation to First Nation and even from one geographic region to another. For more information, please consult with a Traditional Elder, Healer or Medicine Person.

~Sweat Lodge~

If you are on a healing journey the Sweat Lodge is a good place to begin because when you are sitting in a Sweat Lodge, you are at the center of the Four Directions.

The Sweat Lodge ceremony forms part of the ceremonial life of many First Nations. Even within one territory, there may be differences in the way the ceremony is conducted.

~Some Types of Sweats~

The Sweat Lodge has been called "the most powerful structure in the world". It is a place specially constructed to conduct ceremony. Sweats vary from purification and cleansing to healing sweats. It is said that the Sweat Lodge during ceremony "responds" to what the participants need.

Other type of sweats include clan sweats, sweats for fasters both before and after they fast, sweats for sundancers and sweats when you seek your spirit name.

In some traditions, the women sweat together at one time and the men sweat at another. Specific sweats may be held for children or for warriors.

~Fire and Altar~

As you approach the sweat lodge you first come to the altar and the sacred fire where the rocks, called the Grandmothers and the Grandfathers,

are heated for the sweat. One of the teachings of the fire is that when we leave this earth, we have to go through the fire to get to the spirit world. It takes only a second and all the impurities that we have gathered while on this earth are removed.

Both the fire and the altar are in line with the door of the lodge.

Before you enter the lodge, offerings are made at the altar of the sacred fire. Tobacco is always one of the offerings.

~The Structure of the Sweat Lodge~

A sweat lodge is a dome-shaped structure. When people talk about the lodge, they talk about entering the womb of Mother Earth. It is a sacred place.

~Door Way~

The direction of the doorway that the people enter differs according to the teachings of the conductor. One conductor's teachings may specify that the doorway face east. Another conductor's teachings will require that the doorway face south because his or her medicine and what they learned came from the south. The teachings of another lodge specify that the direction of the doorway change throughout the year. This Four Direction lodge would face each direction for three months of the year.

~Frame~

The frame of the sweat Lodge or sweat house is made of a specific number of red willow, ash, birch, maple or jack pine saplings. Some teachings refer to the frame as the ribs of Mother Earth. Tobacco is placed at the base of the whole that each pole is set into.

In the past, the frame would be covered with buffalo or deer hides. Today, canvas tarps and blankets are used. The coverings keep the light out and the heat in.

Once the lodge is constructed, a ceremony is held before the first sweat takes place.

~Inside the Lodge~

Inside the sweat lodge, the participants sit in a circle around the central fire pit. The sweat lodge conductor usually sits at one side of the door and may have other participants sit in the Four Directions of the Lodge. The

number of people attending the ceremony varies depending on the reason for the sweat.

~Grandmothers and Grandfathers~

A firekeeper tends the sacred fire outside the lodge. At the request of the conductor, the firekeeper brings the Grandmothers and Grandfathers to the lodge door. They are then placed in the pit at the center of the lodge by the conductor's helper. Even though the firekeeper is not inside the sweat lodge, he is very much a part of the ceremony and may receive teachings, cleansing and healing.

In some teachings, the rocks are known as the bones of Mother Earth. Women call the rocks Grandmothers and men call them Grandfathers. In one tradition, teachings describe four-lodges-in-one where the number of rocks is specified for each type of sweat. Seven rocks are used in a cleansing sweat, fourteen rocks are used in a healing sweat, twenty-one rocks are used in a hunting sweat and twenty-eight rocks are used in the truth sweat.

~Drum~

When you enter the sweat lodge, you are seeking the help of Creator and the spirits. The helping spirits are called into the sweat lodge by means of the prayers, songs, drums or shakers. A drum, either a little hand drum or the water drum, is an important item in the ceremony because the drum is made from all of Creation. The sound of the drum is like the heartbeat of Mother Earth.

Songs and prayers are offered during the ceremony. Sometimes a pipe is used.

Each person has the chance to speak or pray within the lodge. Cedar water is poured on the Grandmothers and Grandfathers, creating a cleansing steam in the lodge. At the end of the ceremony, the spirits are thanked and sent home.

When you come out of the sweat lodge, your spirit feels new and alive. You can feel the healing energies and you are more aware of all Creation and the beauty that is there.

~Sweat Lodge Conductors~

Sweat Lodge Conductors are

men or women who have trained for many years to earn the right to conduct sweats. They have received the teachings and have gone through ceremonies to develop the gift that is given to them.

The Sweat lodge conductor knows the protocol and history of his or her lodge. They are able to explain it clearly and concisely when asked.

It is important that the sweat lodge conductor is aware of health issues you may have before you enter the lodge.

He or she is also able to assist you with your experiences in the sweat lodge.

~Preparations for a Sweat~

When you request a sweat, an offering of tobacco is made to the sweat conductor.

Some sweat lodge conductors say you should abstain from alcohol or drugs for at least four days, others say seven days.

~

As our awareness and knowledge of our traditions and culture increases, so does our honor and respect for these ways. This has not always been the case in our communities. There are always those who present themselves as Healers, Elders or Medicine People who have not earned that title and may use the Teachings and medicines in the wrong way. It is important for everyone, especially young people, to be aware of this and to exercise caution when they seek healing, Teachings or advice. It is advisable to consult with people whom you trust to get referrals to respected and recognized Traditional Elders, Healers, or Medicine People.

This information along with other teachings published in the "Currents" is made possible by "Anishnawbe Health Toronto".

For more information on these teachings and the program, you can contact Dewayne Boyer by phone at 416-360-0486



Grove Schedule



September 16
September 17
September 19
September 23
September 24
September 26
September 30

Mississippi Heat
Mississippi Heat
The Polish Kid & Lorraine
Risqué
Risqué
Ken Hawkins Polka Band
Rock Supply

Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Polka Monday	Noon – 4pm
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Polka Monday	Noon – 4pm
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am



October 1
October 3
October 7
October 8

Thunderoad
Watkoski Family Band
CP2
CP2

Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Polka Monday	Noon – 4pm
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am



October 10
October 14
October 15
October 17

Linda Lee
Heaters
Heaters
Virgil Baker’s Just 4 Fun Polka

Polka Monday	Noon – 4pm
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Monday	Noon – 4pm



October 21
October 22
October 24
October 28
October 29
October 31

Randy Martin’s Classic Soul
Randy Martin’s Classic Soul
Ken Hawkins Polka Band
Lanise Kirk
Lanise Kirk
Rodney Beyer & His
Polka Pals

Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Polka Monday	Noon – 4pm
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Weekend Entertain	9pm – 1am
Polka Monday	Noon – 4pm



November 4
November 5
November 7
November 11
November 12

Dutch Henry
Dutch Henry
Ken Hawkins Polka Band
Montage
Montage

Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Polka Monday	Noon – 4pm
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Weekend Entertain	9pm – 1am



November 14
November 18
November 19
November 21

Virgil Baker’s Just 4 Fun
Destiny
Destiny
Rodney Beyer & His
Polka Pals

Polka Monday	Noon – 4pm
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Polka Monday	Noon – 4pm



November 25
November 26
November 28

Brian Schram Band
Brian Schram Band
Andy Nester Orchestra

Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Polka Monday	Noon – 4pm



December 2
December 3
December 5
December 9
December 10
December 12

Curbtones
Curbtones
Andy Nester Orchestra
Heaters
Heaters
Rodney Beyer & His
Polka Pals

Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Polka Monday	Noon – 4pm
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Polka Monday	Noon – 4pm



December 14
December 16
December 17
December 19
December 23
December 26
December 30

Virgil’s Holiday Sing-a-Long
Dutch Henry
Dutch Henry
Virgil Baker’s Just 4 Fun Polka
The Detour Band
Ken Hawkins Polka Band
Risqué

Special Holiday Event	7pm – 10pm
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am
Monday	Noon – 4pm
Variety	9pm – 4pm
Polka Monday	Noon – 4pm
Weekend Entertain.	9pm – 1am

October Commodity News 2005

Find The Hidden Words!

C	F	O	Y	S	T	E	R	H	C	E
H	C	E	Y	E	K	R	U	T	S	N
I	H	R	E	I	F	B	E	O	G	O
C	E	O	O	B	M	P	O	Y	O	T
K	V	F	Y	T	O	M	V	L	R	T
E	O	A	K	L	A	T	B	E	F	U
N	N	R	E	C	G	G	H	M	A	M
T	O	T	R	C	J	R	I	S	A	L
P	N	A	C	E	Y	V	C	L	I	L
A	B	N	O	S	I	N	E	V	L	F
E	L	K	O	L	A	F	F	U	B	A

- Alligator
- Chevon
- Fish
- Mutton
- Veal
- Antelope
- Chicken
- Frog
- Oyster
- Venison
- Beef
- Crab
- Lamb
- Pork
- Buffalo
- Elk
- Moose
- Turkey

The Food Distribution Program serves 13 counties:

Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Wexford, Osecola, Mecosta, Ottawa. For information call: 1-888-723-8288 or 1-231-398-6715 and 1-231-398-6716 ask for Yvonne Theodore or Frances Lawrence or Laurie Jackson. Office Hours are 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Recipe: The Family Pie

1 handful of forgiveness
1 heaping cup of love
1 full pound of unselfishness

1- Mix all together smoothly with complete faith.
2- Add 2 tablespoons of wisdom and 1 teaspoon
of
 good nature for flavor.
3- This makes a wonderful family pie.
 One complete pie serves any size family.
 Be sure to sprinkle generously with love and
 thoughtfulness.

Recipe: Cooking bag venison

5 pound roast
1 can onion soup
1/2 pound mushrooms
1 bottle italian dressing
2 sliced onions
1/2 pound bacon
1 oven cooking bag
2 Tbs. flour

Marinate meat in Italian dressing in cooking bag in refrigerator overnight. Before cooking, add 1 Tbs. flour to marinated mixture and shake.

Place onions around roast and cover meat with raw strips of bacon.
Pour soup and mushrooms into the bag and tie closed.
Poke a few holes in top of bag.
Roast in pan at 280 degrees for 45 minutes for each pound of meat.
Drain drippings into a sauce pan and heat.
Add flour and make a thick gravy.

Tribal member Discount

To: All Tribal Members of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

From: James B. LaPorte, General Manager

Dated June 2, 2005

The Little River Casino and Resort would like to revise and remind all Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Members of the discount available at the Willows Family Dining Restaurant and Rapids Delicatessen. Please see the details below:

· Two for one (2 for 1) meal discount;

o Member pays full price for the higher of two meals. The 2nd meal is free

OR


o Individual Tribal Member may receive a 50% discount

· This discount is for Thursdays only;

· This discount is good at the Willows or Rapids;

· This discount applies to meals of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Members and one guest;

· This discount is only redeemable when showing a valid LRBOI Tribal Identification Card to the cashier.



James B. LaPorte, General Manager

TRIBES FIGHT TO PROTECT WATERS FROM MERCURY

On August 17, 2005, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, together with numerous other tribes and the National Congress of American Indians, joined fifteen states and numerous public health and environmental organizations in a lawsuit challenging EPA’s cap-and-trade rule on mercury pollution. EPA has proposed to regulate mercury under a cap-and-trade system that will allow power plants to

elect, rather than reduce their own mercury emissions. Under this system, plants whose emissions are above the legal limit would be allowed to purchase emissions credits from cleaner plants whose emissions are below targeted levels, enabling them to accumulate “credits”. In a separate rule, EPA has proposed de-listing mercury from power plants as a hazardous

air pollutant, this in turn would allow power plants to avoid strict emission control requirements under the maximum achievable control technology program applied to toxic air pollutants. EPA’s proposed cap-and-trade approach will perpetuate so-called hot spots (areas affected by local deposition of mercury near power plants) in regions such as the Great Lakes where older power

plants are concentrated. EPA’s proposed rules will also delay substantial emission reductions of mercury that would have otherwise been mandated and achieved under EPA’s original proposal, announced in 2000, treating mercury as a hazardous air pollutant under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act.

“It is not enough for EPA to adopt a regulatory approach that, in large measure, maintains the status quo and would protect human health through fish consumption advisories. EPA has a trust responsibility to promote the protection of these treaty resources and assure that Tribal members have the ability to utilize these resources, which our ancestors fought hard to protect so that we could maintain our way of life. These are resources we share with other citizens of Michigan and I am especially pleased to join Governor Granholm, Attorney General Cox and other organizations concerned with public health and environmental protection in this effort.”
- Lee Sprague, Ogema

EPA’s justification for this regulatory approach is a cost-benefit calculation that utilizes a health assessment that ignores well-established science and drastically underestimates daily fish consumption, particularly for Tribal Nations that continue subsistence fishing traditions. For centuries, Indian people in the Great Lakes and Northwest have relied on fish as a significant component of their diets, their fishing activity has comprised a central component of their cultural activities.

Environmental health advocates in the Native American community have argued that EPA’s health-based risk assessment ignores the fact that Tribal members in a number of areas consume quantities of fish far in excess of what the EPA posited as a “typical” consumption rate when it formulated its risk assessment. Tribal advocates also argue that EPA utterly failed to consider the fact that mercury contamination substantially diminishes the ability of Tribal communities to use the natural resources protected by solemn treaties

between the United States and Indian Nations. Health advocates and others have noted that fish consumption rates for the general population in regions with strong fishing traditions, such as the Great Lakes, will expose the most sensitive population (women of child-bearing age) to mercury levels twice EPA’s reference dose. In typical Great Lakes Indian communities, fish consumption rates expose Indian populations to mercury at more than 10 times EPA’s threshold.

Tribal resource agencies, including the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, have had to develop fish consumption advisories for specific lakes and fish species to help Tribal members avoid health risks. Environmental and Natural Resource staff employed by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians continue to conduct extensive sampling and contaminant testing of fish populations to develop fish consumption advisories and protect current and future generations.

“It seems beyond belief that EPA would favor a regulatory approach that requires the continuation of these advisories and that the better, indeed legally mandated, approach would be to aggressively address the source of pollutants that are limiting our people’s ability to realize the treaty-protected right to access a traditional food source by up to 90%”.
- Lee Sprague, Ogema

“Michigan’s Native Americans have risen to become model environmental activists over the past few years, with the Little River Band among the top leaders. We need to thoroughly document all the ecological battles that Michigan’s natives are pursuing and propagate this knowledge far and wide.”
- Brian McKenna

For further information contact the Public Information Director of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Glenn Zaring 375 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660 231.723.8288 or via e-mail to the at gzaring@lrboi.com.

FOR MORE ON MERCURY
SEE PAGE 29

What is Mercury?

SOURCES OF MERCURY.

Mercury is found in many rocks including coal. When coal is burned, mercury is released into the environment. Coal-burning power plants are the largest human-caused source of mercury emissions to the air in the United States, accounting for over 40 percent of all domestic human-caused mercury emissions. EPA has estimated that about one quarter of U.S. emissions from coal-burning power plants are deposited within the contiguous U.S. and the remainder enters the global cycle. Burning hazardous wastes, producing chlorine, breaking mercury products, and spilling mercury, as well as the improper treatment and disposal of products or wastes containing mercury, can also release it into the environment. Current estimates are that less than half of all mercury deposition within the U.S. comes from U.S. sources. Mercury is an element in the earth's crust. Humans cannot create or destroy mercury. Pure mercury is a liquid metal, sometimes referred to as quicksilver that volatilizes readily. It has traditionally been used to make products like thermometers, switches, and some light bulbs.

HOW DOES MERCURY AFFECT HUMAN HEALTH?

Health effects of mercury. Mercury exposure at high levels can harm the brain, heart, kidneys, lungs, and immune system of people of all ages. Research shows that most people's fish consumption does not cause a health concern. However, it has been demonstrated that high levels of methylmercury in the bloodstream of unborn babies and young children may harm the developing nervous system, making the child less able to think and learn.

EXPOSURE TO MERCURY.

Mercury in the air eventually settles into water or onto land where it can be washed into water. Once deposited, certain microorganisms can change it into methylmercury, a highly toxic form that builds up in fish, shellfish and animals that eat fish. Fish and shellfish are the main sources of methylmercury exposure to humans. Methylmercury builds up more in some types of fish and shellfish than others. The levels of methylmercury in fish and shellfish depend on what they eat, how long they live and how high they are in the food chain.

EPA works with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and with states and tribes to issue advice to women who may become pregnant, pregnant women, nursing mothers and parents of young children about how often they should eat certain types of commercially-caught fish and

shellfish. Fish advisories are also issued for men, women, and children of all ages when appropriate. In addition, EPA releases an annual summary of information on locally-issued fish advisories and safe-eating guidelines to the public. Fish is a beneficial part of the diet, so EPA & FDA encourage people to continue to eat fish that are low in methylmercury.

Another less common exposure to mercury that can be a concern is breathing mercury vapor. These exposures can occur when elemental mercury or products that contain elemental mercury break and release mercury to the air, particularly in warm or poorly-ventilated indoor spaces.

IS ANY EXPOSURE TO MERCURY HARMFUL TO PEOPLE?

High levels of mercury in the bloodstream of unborn babies and young children may harm the developing nervous system. Whether an exposure to mercury will harm a person's health depends on a number of factors. Almost all people have at least trace amounts of mercury in their tissues, reflecting mercury's widespread presence in the environment. People may be exposed to mercury in any of its forms under different situations. The factors that determine how severe the health effects are from mercury exposure include:

- the chemical form of mercury - elemental (metallic), inorganic compounds, or organic compounds
- the dose -- how much
- the duration of exposure -- how long
- the route of exposure -- eating, breathing, injecting, touching
- other chemical exposures
- the specific characteristics of the person - age, health

Anyone who has concerns about mercury exposure should consult a doctor. Doctors may be able to identify exposure and health risks by measuring the amounts of mercury in blood, urine, breast milk, finger and toenails, and hair. Over time, the body can rid itself of some mercury. Methylmercury is removed from the body naturally, but it may take months to a year for the levels to drop significantly.

The effects of mercury exposure can be very severe, subtle, or may not occur at all, depending on the factors above. Mercury can affect the nervous system. Because fetuses, infants, and children are still developing, they are particularly sensitive to the effects of methylmercury on the nervous system. People are mainly exposed to methylmercury, an organic compound, when they eat fish and shellfish that contain methylmercury.

You can find more detailed information about health effects that may result from exposure to mercury and methylmercury by visiting the Health Effects section of the EPA Mercury Web site and the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) database. You can also visit the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) toxicological profile for mercury.

<http://www.epa.gov/mercury/faq.htm#1>

ECOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF MERCURY.

Birds and mammals that eat fish are more exposed to mercury than other animals in water ecosystems. Similarly, predators that eat fish-eating animals may be highly exposed. At high levels of exposure, methylmercury's harmful effects on these animals include death, reduced reproduction, slower growth and development, and abnormal behavior.

WHAT CAN I DO TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF MERCURY IN THE ENVIRONMENT?

You can buy and use products that are mercury-free. You can make sure that you properly dispose of any mercury-containing items that you have. U.S. demand for mercury in products dropped 75 percent from 1988 to 1997 for several reasons, including: federal bans on mercury additives in paint and pesticides, industry efforts to reduce mercury in batteries, increasing state regulation of mercury emissions and mercury in products, and state recycling programs. Both the business community and the public can further contribute to reduce mercury releases to the environment by making or purchasing mercury-free products. They can also participate in state/local collection programs rather than throwing away mercury-containing products.

For more information on Mercury and its effects, see:

<http://www.epa.gov/mercury/faq>.

Find out how
LRBOI's
Water Quality Program
is working to monitor
Mercury levels and
other pollution on the
1836/1855
Ceded Territory

Remembering the Past....

Submitted by Valerie Chandler, Tribal Historic Preservation Coordinator

“Fishing Rights are Key to Bargaining”

By Tim Omarzu, Staff Writer

(Re-printed from the Manistee News Advocate, June 12, 1995)

Gill netting should be a powerful bargaining chip for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians if the tribe tries to strike a deal to harvest salmon at the Little Manistee River fish weir.

At least that’s how it worked for three other Northern Michigan Indian tribes which share the same treaty right to gill net as the Little River Band.

In 1985, the state of Michigan signed an agreement with Sault Ste. Marie, Bay Mills and Grand Traverse Band tribes in which the tribes promised not to gill net below the 45th parallel and in certain areas north of it.

The state agreed to contribute about \$2.5 million to the tribes, including \$400,000 to fund conservation programs, fishery assessment and a marketing feasibility study for fish products.

The Little River Band didn’t gain federal recognition until last year, so it wasn’t a party to the agreement.

But the Little River Band is covered by the same 1836 treaty that gives the three tribes the right to gill net, according to Mark Dougher, executive director of the tribe.

Little River is looking into the feasibility of operating the Little Manistee weir and some or all of the other six salmon weirs operated in the state of Michigan.

Tribal members have already met once with the DNR and hope to have a second meeting this month.

If the tribe decides it would like to operate one or more weirs, it probably would try to bargain for technical or financial assistance from the DNR, Dougher said.

“If we hit a brick wall with the state and they’re not willing to...provide preferential consideration for the tribe operating the weir, or any other forms of technical or financial assistance, then the tribe may feel that they’re left with no alternative

than to allow members...to engage in gill netting,” Dougher said.

Currently, Little River Band members aren’t allowed to gill net. And so far, there’s been no official decision on gill netting, Dougher said.

The tribe’s natural resources committee is working on a conservation code that will spell out hunting and fishing regulations governing tribal members.

He stressed that if the tribe does agree not to gill net as part of the deal to operate the weir, that doesn’t mean its giving up the right.

“Little River’s not giving up its treaty right, it’s not giving up its sovereignty. It’s exercising (sovereignty) by not allowing its members to engage in a certain method of fishing,” Dougher said.

LRBOI COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

COMMISSIONS

Binojeeuk Commission: The purpose of this commission is to protect the best interests of the child and promoting the stability and security of the Tribe and its Indian families by exercising the Tribe’s rights under the Indian Child Welfare Act and the Little River Band Children’s Code. The Commission advises the Tribal Council and Tribal Court on child welfare matters, recommends policy and procedures, monitors child welfare proceedings involving Tribal members in state or Tribal courts, and other duties as outlined in the Children’s Code. There are five (5) adult members of this body.

2 Vacancies

Enrollment Commission: This Commission is responsible for making determinations on enrollment applications, as well as advising the enrollment officer and Tribal Council regarding the enrollment process, to ensure that it is equitable and fair. The Commission has seven (7) members.

2 Vacancies

Gaming Commission: The Gaming Commission is the Tribe’s Regulatory Agency that has authority over all gaming related activities within the Tribe’s jurisdiction. The duties and powers are numerous, including but not limited to enforcement internal controls, licensure of Casino employees, adoption of regulations for the gaming enterprise, enforcement of gaming laws, regulations and policy. This Commission is comprised of three (3) adult members, and each commissioner is required to have a comprehensive background investigation prior to appointment to this body.

1 Vacancy

Housing Commission: The Commission is organized to develop and further housing opportunities for Tribal members, to provide housing programs and services to Tribal members, assess the housing needs of the Tribe and to submit the Tribe’s Annual Indian Housing Plan under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act. There are five (5) members of this commission, one member may be a non-member of the Tribe.

1 Vacancy

Natural Resources Commission: This body is empowered to regulate utilization of natural resources within the Tribe’s jurisdiction, including hunting, fishing, gathering, trapping activities. The Commission issues licenses and permits, as well as recommending to Tribal Council any additional ordinances to protect the natural resources, lands and waters within the Tribe’s Reservation and Ceded Territory. There are five (5) members of this Commission.

COMMITTEES

Cultural Preservation Committee

The Committee organizes and approves cultural activities, including the annual Jingtamok.

1 Vacancy

Applications for appointment for these positions consist of a letter of interest and an application form which identifies the individual’s personal and professional background. Applications for the positions also require a letter of interest to be filed with the Tribal Ogema.

Note;
All Commissioners are required to sign a conflict of interest form.

Note: In September, in addition to the current vacancies as indicated, there will be reappointments due for terms that are expiring. For example, there is one vacancy on the gaming commission, but some terms will be up for reappointment, so two seats may need to be filled by September.

Commission members receive a stipend of \$100.00 per meeting for their service to this important government function.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE - DEER GRANT

by Emily Drouin - Public Information

This month, the Tribe received the great news that it will be awarded yet another wildlife grant. Our Wildlife Program applied for a grant to fund a Comprehensive Management Plan for Whitetail Deer in the 1835 and 1855 Ceded Territories.

“Whitetail deer management is a top priority of the Little River Band tribal membership and is considered one of the most important cultural species by the LRBOI Natural Resources Commission. However, management of deer populations requires the collection of ecological data about deer and subsequent assembly of such information into a management plan. A vital component of such a management plan is an understanding of potential deer impacts on forest vegetation and at-risk species on tribally ceded lands. Unfortunately, such a deer management plan does not exist for the LRBOI.”

Through the **Tribal Landowner Incentive Program (TLIP)** more than \$ 2 million dollars is distributed to federally recognized tribes that have demonstrated the desire, resources, and ability to manage large-scale research projects. Out of 35 proposals that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service received, it has allocated funds to applicants in 17 tribes across 11 states in the country. TLIP grants are intended to enable tribes to proactively contribute to the protection and restoration of tribal lands. For projects such as the extensive research on white tail deer that will be conducted at LRBOI through this grant, the Fish and Wildlife Service trusts only partners that have demonstrated their capabilities.

The goal of the Comprehensive Management Plan is to assess the current deer population numbers, distribution, general health and the impact deer have on their environment. With this information, the Natural Resources Department will help to guide wildlife policies throughout the Reservation and within tribal lands to ensure these policies are consistent with the preservation of Michigan deer populations and ensure the health and stability of the local deer population for generations to come. The Wildlife Program will develop a comprehensive management plan consisting of sound management recommendations to balance Tribal needs with those of deer and the ecosystem.

The Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Gale Norton, commented that; *“We are empowering Tribes to do what the federal government cannot do alone for imperiled species on tribal lands, these programs help us preserve tribal lands and their natural resources to conserve our shared wildlife heritage.”*

The Little River Band tribal membership must also celebrate and be proud of the fact that our Conservation Department is gaining great respect within the natural resources conservation community. The wildlife department has also made great strides in research efforts regarding the local black bear population, the local bobcat population, the numerous factors affecting the native wild rice stands and many other natural resource projects. The Great Lakes and Inland Fisheries programs are also breaking new grounds every day, leading LRBOI to the forefront of environmental research and protection, while ensuring that tribal efforts to protect Mother Earth do not go in vain. Sturgeon and other species are revitalized and protected by the Tribe’s hard work. Water quality is also an important factor. The Anishinaabec are traditionally very close to the local bodies of water; they are the source of life that is the blood of Mother Earth’s veins. Our Brownfields Program is also making giant leaps toward reclaiming the natural health of various properties within the 1836 and 1855 ceded territories. These properties are being analyzed to find the best ways to clean them up, make them safe for use and potentially future development or guaranteed protection from any more pollutants.

With the help of several tribal members, the LRBOI conservation department ensures that laws are being followed by the public, the State, local businesses, and anyone that comes in contact with our precious natural resources. They are the eyes and ears of the Tribe in the field.

With this new grant, the Wildlife Program will be adding white tail deer to its list of protégés. The grant will enable LRBOI to be a big part of long-term research that will ensure tribal control and influence in the conservation of a species that has been a part of Anishinaabe cultural traditions and heritage for thousands of years.

Tribal Landowner Incentive Program grants awarded in Michigan in 2005

Since 2003, the Service has put \$23 million to work for tribal conservation efforts through both the Tribal Landowner Incentive Program and the Tribal Wildlife Grant Program. The 562 federally recognized Indians and Indian tribes have a controlling interest in more than 52 million acres of tribal trust lands and an additional 40 million acres held by Alaska native corporations. Much of this land is relatively undisturbed, providing a significant amount of rare and important fish and wildlife habitat.

Emily C. Drouin
Public Information



Wanted: Qualified Bottled Water Supply and Service Providers.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
375 River Street
Manistee, MI. 49660
Phone: (231)723-8288

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is requesting proposals from **qualified Bottled Water Supply and Service Providers.**

CONTACT:

Questions regarding the quote and award should be directed to:

Ms. Michelle Lucas
Purchasing Supervisor,
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
(231) 398-6804.

Wanted: Qualified Office Supplies and Equipment Providers

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
375 River Street
Manistee, MI. 49660
Phone: (231)723-8288

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is requesting proposals from **qualified Office Supplies and Equipment Providers.**

CONTACT:

Questions regarding the quote and award should be directed to:

Ms. Michelle Lucas
Purchasing Supervisor,
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
(231) 398-6804.

The spirit of Community



Goody’s donates
Native American
History books to the
Tribe

Jim and Nancy Goodwin, the owners of the local coffee shop “Goody’s Juice and Java” have donated an extensive collection of Native American History books to the Tribe. The collection originally belonged to Jim Goodwin’s father.

The books are now located at the Historical Preservation office, where an increasingly wide-ranging compilation of reference material is beginning to accumulate. There is currently no policy in place for borrowing the documents, but they are available for anyone to reference as long as they are viewed in the Historical Preservation office only.

You are more than welcome to browse through the collection and make copies of the material you want/need. Make sure you call ahead to ensure someone is there to greet you.

Chi Miigwetch to Jim and Nancy at Goody’s!!

For information on the books contact:
Valerie Chandler
Historical Preservation
Phone: 231-398-2222

<ul style="list-style-type: none">· American Indian Almanac John Upton Terrell 1971· Indians of North America Paula A. Franklin 1979· The Indian Sign Language W.P. Clark 1983· The American Indians (Dimensions of Ethnicity) Edward H. Spicer 1980· Native Religions of North America Ake Hultkrantz 1987· Book of the Hopi Frank Waters 1963· Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee Dee Brown 1970· Native American Wisdom Nearburn/ Mengelkoch· Michigan Prehistory Mysteries Betty Sodders 1990· Our Brother’s Keeper: The Indian in White America Edgar S. Cahn (poor binding)· Indians (American Heritage Library) William Brandon 1961· Indian Wars (American Heritage Library) Utley/Washington 1977· Everyday Life of North American Indians Jon Manchip White 1979· Stolen Continents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· The American Eyes Since 1492 Ronald Wright 1979· Indian Givers Jack Waterford 1988· Native Roots How the Indians Enriched America Jack Waterford 1991· The Wampanoag Laurie Weinstein – Farson 1989· The Indian Heritage of America Alvin M. Josephy, Jr. 1991· The Rocks Begin to Speak LaVan Martinson 1990· Kokopelli John V. Young· Indian Sign Language William Tomkins 1969· Visions of a Vanishing Race Edward Sheriff Curtis 1986· The Red Record (Wallam Olum) David McCutchen 1993· Atlas of The North American Indian Carl Waldman 1985· North American Indian Wars Richard H. Dillon 1983· Through Indian Eyes Readers Digest· The Atlas of Mysterious Places Jennifer Westwood 1987
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Traditional vs. Modern
By Christine Verheek

The youth have a hard decision to make every day of their lives. That decision is this: do you take the chance and show your heritage in the modern world today and get picked on, or do you keep it a secret and don't learn what you really are. Well being a part of the youth even to this day I still have to make that decision.

When I was young I felt like I wouldn't fit in and that everyone would hate me, so I kept it a secret until I was 10 years old. Let me tell you, your friends won't hate you for what race or background you come from, because that does not matter, what matters is what is in your heart, and if you are proud of what you are, you don't need to worry about if you should tell the world or keep it to yourself. Trust me I found out the hard way. I still have to make that decision and I always will but I will always choose to tell the world, because I am proud of what I am and that is all that counts.

If you want to make a difference in how people treat people of a different race or background, take them to events such as a Pow Wow or gatherings, and teach them that it is good to know your background or race and to be proud of it. Also show them how it makes you a whole person because you know what you are, instead of knowing only half or less of what you are.

OGEMA

CONTINUED FROM COVER PAGE



The TBAC meets once every quarter usually in conjunction with the Indian Affairs Senior Managers meetings. The next scheduled meeting of the TBAC will be in the latter part of November. “I have been working with the BIA and Indian Health Service (IHS) along with the Office of the Inspector General OIG office since I became Ogema in 2003 to address the serious issues we have faced as a result of the deficiencies in the Tribes Audits going back to 1997. I believe that this positive communications on behalf of the membership on critical issues has played a part in my appointment. I am looking forward to advocating the regional priorities on BIA budgets to address the needs of Tribes and Members as we move forward.

We are not completely out of the woods yet and we may still face sanctions, however I believe that as a result of the entire Accounting Departments diligent work on these issues and communications with federal agencies we contract with we will get the audit situation under control and any sanctions we may face will have a minimal impact on the services to the membership. I have to give credit to the prior Ogema, Jay Sam, for creating the road map to success.” Says Ogema Lee Sprague about this appointment.

Submitted by the Ogema’s Office

**Wanted:
Qualified Hardware and Maintenance
Supply Providers**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
375 River Street
Manistee, MI. 49660
Phone: (231)723-8288

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is requesting proposals from **qualified Hardware and Maintenance Supply Providers.**

**Qualified Vendors Wanted:
Mat/Linen Rental Service Providers**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
375 River Street
Manistee, MI. 49660
Phone: (231)723-8288

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is requesting proposals from **qualified Matt/Linen Rental Service Providers.**

CONTACT:

Questions regarding the quote and award should be directed to:

Ms. Michelle Lucas
Purchasing Supervisor,
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
(231) 398-6804.

**The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Utilities Department**

Gary Lewis, Utility Director
(Tribal Member)
Office # (231) 723-2309
Cell # (231) 690-3511
glewis@lrboi.com

Mike Ceplina, Laboratory Tech/Maintenance Tech.
(Tribal Member)
Office # (231) 723-2309
Cell # (231) 690-7156
mceplina@lrboi.com

Rodney Mathews, Water Distribution Tech/Maintenance Tech
(Tribal Member)
Office # (231) 723-2309
Cell # (231) 690-9390
rmathews@lrboi.com

Andrew Patricio, Water Distribution Tech/Maintenance tech
(Tribal Member)
Office# (231) 723-2309
Cell # (231) 690-9391
apatricio@lrboi.com

Main Line (231)723-2309
Fax (231) 723-2321
Director / Emergency cell (231) 690-3511

**In an emergency during working hours (8-5 Mon-Fri) please call the Main Line first, for emergencies after normal working hours dial (231) 690-3511.
We will return your phone call a.s.a.p.!**

**Working hours are: 8-5pm, Mon- Fri.
On call for emergencies: 24 hours a day 7 days a week**

DRIVER’S TRAINING PROGRAM FUNDING

In August 2005, the Little River Band Tribal Council approved an addition to the LRBOI Student Services program that will allow parents/children to receive up to \$250 for reimbursement or payment to a vendor for driver’s training programs. This is a new program that has been included in the 2006 Education Department budget proposal. If your child won’t be starting driver’s training until after January 2006, please wait until January to apply. Limited funding has been allocated by Tribal Council to be available for those students who will be starting driver’s training between now and December 1, 2005. To be eligible for this program, a student must be an enrolled Tribal Member who is in the process of enrolling in a driver’s training program. Please submit a letter requesting the assistance. Include a copy of the student’s registration form or other information that indicates the dates of the program and the program cost. If you are seeking reimbursement you must include a copy (please don’t send the original) of your receipt. Otherwise you will need to submit an invoice/bill and the program can pay the vendor. Please be sure in your request to include your child’s name, address, Tribal ID number and date of birth.

For those students who will be signing up for driver’s training after January 1, 2006, your application for this program will be included in the LRBOI Student Services Registration which will be mailed in January.

What is the LRBOI Water Quality Program Doing in 2005?

- Baseline water quality monitoring
- Water chemistry
- Nutrient sampling
- Macroinvertebrate sampling
- Fish community assessments
- Fish tissue testing for toxicity
- Mercury testing
- PCB’s testing
- Pesticides
- Dioxins and Furans
- Water column mercury sampling
- Manistee Lake and Tippy Pond
- EPA Watershed Initiative Grant
- Restoration and monitoring of
 - 5 road-stream crossings
 - 4 streambank stabilizations
 - 3 access sites
 - 1 sturgeon spawning site reclamation project
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Tribal Wildlife Grant
- Detailed monitoring of restoration sites in the Manistee Watershed
- Participate in local watershed groups

To find out more about the LRBOI Water Quality Program you can contact :

Stephanie Ogren, Aquatic Biologist
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Phone: 231-723-1594
e-mail: sogren@lrboi.com

SALMON SPEARING

All people that plan on going spearing need to obtain a **2005 FISH SPEARING AND BOWFISHING REPORTING CARD FOR INLAND WATERS**. These cards need to be returned to the LRBOI Natural Resources Department within 30 days after harvest. The information collected assists the biologists and the Natural Resource Commission in evaluating current regulations and opportunities.

If you have any questions please contact me,

Marty Hotgren
Inland Fisheries Biologist
Conservation Department
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
375 River Street, Manistee MI 49660
Phone:(231)723-1594 Fax:(231)723-8873



Front Row: Julie Wolfe, Sandy Lewis, Karla Battice Kathy Berentsen, Juanita Antoine, Trish Cross, Pat Wilson
Back Row: Cindy Drake, Jessica Burger, Deb Bevans, Deb Geno, Janice Grant, Amy Bialik, Doctor Julie Dixon, Heidi Foster

Little River Band Tribal Health Services
MENO MEESHEKE
by Sandy Lewis

We are sending from our hearts Meno Meesheke (good medicine) to all of our members and families from all of us at the Little River Band Tribal Health Services.

The building that we currently occupy was built in 1960 and has been in severe need of repair. Thanks to the persistence and dedication of the Health Director; Jessica Burger R.N., we are currently under construction. Jessica has managed to obtain support from the Indian Health Services Facilities Improvement Grant in the amount of \$181,999.00. All current Clinic renovations have been federally funded. NO TRIBAL REVENUES will be applied to repairs. Tribal members will see no financial drain or negative program effects from this project. We are seeing a new complex evolve around us. We will have a HIPPA compliant reception area, new flooring, handicap power assisted doors, ceiling tiles, these are just a few of the new improvements we look forward sharing with you.

The clinic houses 20 employees: 16 tribal members, 2 descendants, and 2 Indian Preference, 1 from Lac Du Flambeau and 1 from Sault Ste. Marie.

Tribal Health Services is honored to serve approximately 3000 tribal members through 3 departments: Medical Health Clinic; Be-Da-Bin; and Contract Health.

Medical Health Clinic staff: Julie Dixon, D.O., Janice Grant, Clinic and Community Health Supervisor Deb Bevans R.N., and Amy Bialik, Medical Assistant.

If you live within 90 miles of the service area you must coordinate your care here at the Tribal Clinic to insure

co-pays through Contract Health. Our federal benefits increase the more you patronize and support our own community services.

Be-Da-Bin-Substance Abuse Prevention: Martha Kase, Supervisor, Deb Geno, Councilor, Pat Wilson, Substance Abuse Councilor and Julie Wolfe, Youth Prevention Worker .

Please keep up with the adventures of Julie Wolfe. Julie has many activities throughout the year for our youth and families including Tobacco Awareness, Easter Egg Hunt, Pictures with Santa, Wellness Walk, Medicine Wheel Teachings and Indian Olympics. Stay updated with our Notices in the Little River Currents and/or special mailings.

Contract Health: Gina Wright; Supervisor, CHS Staff includes Cindy Drake; Kathy Berentsen, Juanita Antoine, Karla Battice and Sandy Renner

Congratulations to Contract Health, after all the repairs are done they will be receive well deserved office space. The Contract Health staff has sacrificed by working in overcrowded conditions for several years: plenty of time to bond with each other! Contact Health is an extremely busy office and works under Federal Regulations and guidelines to maintain funding for us.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19
SEE HEALTH

2nd Annual Nmé (Sturgeon) Release - August 27th, 2005

by Emily Drouin - Public Information



On Saturday, August 27th, a gathering took place on the banks of the Manistee River. The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (LRBOI) Natural Resources Department (NRD) and the Nmé Cultural Context Task Group invited Tribal Members and members of the general public to partake in the release of eleven (11) sturgeon.

The LRBOI Inland Fisheries Program, with the help of the Great Lakes Fishery Trust, the US Forest Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Cultural Task Group have successfully reared more

than fifty (50) young sturgeon in a state of the art facility near the Manistee River. This number is indicative of the tremendous progress that has been made since last year's release. Eleven of the sturgeon were mature enough for release this month, and in the spirit of community and celebration, a ceremony and feast were organized to mark the event.

Tribal Ogema, Lee Sprague, was first to take center stage as he proudly described the success of the tribe in pioneering a riverside rearing facility and sturgeon population rehabilitation project.

Sturgeon capture demonstration



"There are a lot of other peoples: fish, birds, plants, insects... that we share the Earth with. When we do things (...) they have also assisted in several other surveys; The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded the Tribe a Watershed Initiative Grant that is improving water quality and spawning habitat of sturgeon in the Manistee River; Northern Environmental has been a partner in designing, developing, and sometimes fixing the glitches in the state-of-the-art rearing facility.

Let us not forget the efforts of Tribal Members and the support of the Tribe. The Nmé Cultural Context Group, led by Jimmy Mitchell, was thanked



Patrick Wilson explaining his logo to the gathered crowd

ologist in this project, then came to the stage as the crowd welcomed him with warm applause. Holtgren thanked the 30 to 40 people that partook in the momentous efforts that lead to the release of over 50 young Sturgeon back into the Michigan waters.

Among the participating organizations are: *The Great Lakes Fishery Trust (GLFT)*, that is funding the assessment component of the sturgeon program, their contribution in assessing the impacts of stream-side rearing compared to fish that are reared in the wild, they are also helping with funding for a graduate student from Michigan Technical University, summer seasonal staff,

for its work in developing the 10-year, 25 year, and seven generation plans to protect and rehabilitate the sturgeon in Michigan Rivers. Without their contributions, this project would not have been possible, and this generation may have been the last to know the sturgeon.

"All the issues that came up throughout the life of the project have been confronted and resolved. This team ensures that there are no problems that are without solutions." Said Holtgren, thanking the team for all its hard work.

Holtgren then described the Sturgeon Rearing Facility, a small trailer tucked in the

CONTINUED P. 17



Marty Holtgren addressing the gathered attendance

woods a few dozen feet from the river. It was, as mentioned above, an eclectic team of dedicated staff and volunteers that made this never-before facility a reality.

"The Sturgeon are a unique species, they will supercede us (through the work we are doing here today)." (Holtgren) The Sturgeon can live to be up to 150 years old.

The Natural Resource Department started working on this project four and a half (4½)

years ago. It is estimated that between 20 and 40 adult Sturgeon currently come up the river to spawn every year. A small number compared to the thousands that have traditionally called the Manistee River their native home.

Why did the Sturgeon Rehabilitation team chose to take sturgeon out of the rivers to rear them in a facility?

Sturgeon larvae are about 4 millimeters. That is about this ~ size. They are easy prey for birds, fish, frogs, environmental changes, etc. By taking a few larvae (by no means does the NRD have the capability, nor the desire, to remove more than a representative proportion of the larvae) from the river the NRD gives them a protected environment to grow. When they are about 5 or 6 inches, they are released. At the time of release, their rate of survival is about 50%, when they were initially caught, it was less than 1%. The group chose to collect larvae instead of developing a hatchery because they were concerned with several factors specific to sturgeon:



Ogema Lee Sprague addressing the Crowd

- Sturgeon are location-specific, they are genetically related to generations of sturgeon that were born and return to spawn in the same rivers. To ensure that these young sturgeon do not get disoriented when time comes for them to spawn, the team felt that it would be beneficial to keep them in the same waters in which they hatched. (See details on rearing facility).
- If a few pairs of sturgeon were pulled from the general population and selected to spawn, the genetic material would be limited to these pairs. Taking hatched larvae out of the water ensures the team is not changing the population's genetic makeup.

demonstrated the procedure with a cone shaped net. The nets are placed in the current of the river between 10 pm and 1am. They are emptied every half-hour by a hardy group of workers. Mosquitoes notwithstanding, this is a labor intensive and painstaking task. In the narrow glow of flashlights, sturgeon larvae are barely noticeable. Now, less than six months later, they are over five inches in length, well fed, healthy, and ready for release.

Marty Holtgren also introduced members of the staff; Justin Chiotti, a biologist that specializes in sturgeon spawning grounds and whose help has been invaluable; Stephanie Ogren, a biologist specializing in water quality and currently a partner in the sturgeon project, her work is helping to ensure that returning sturgeon will have clean water and appropriate feeding and breeding grounds; Darren Griffeth,

Holtgren narrated the netting technique used to capture the Sturgeon larvae as technicians

Jim Thompson - Forest Service" *"...This project is an indication that we are moving in the right direction."*



*Above - Crowd gathered near the Manistee River
Below - Inside the sturgeon rearing facility*



a technician who's countless hours and ingenuity have been priceless; and many more. A presentation by Forest Service Representative, Jim Thompson followed the heartfelt and buoyant explanations and thanks by Marty Holtgren.

Jim Thompson sated that; *"Historically, sturgeon were an important part of the river ecosystem. This project is an indication that we are moving in the right direction."* He also acknowledged the team's hard work.

Pat Wilson, member of the Cultural Task Group, explained the symbolism of the logo he designed for the Sturgeon Rehabilitation project, this logo

"The Native Way is to gather together, coming together to share stories, energy, and abilities. This group, coming together, partaking in our culture is reminiscent of Native tradition. Thank you, for sharing your time and being a part of the culture and for understanding the "gathering". The children here will be here to see sturgeon return and will then remember all the faces in this crowd today."

Council Member Israel Stone referred to the mention of how important the Sturgeon was to this group of Sturgeon Rehabilitation Staff, but wanted to also underline the importance of the staff members to the survival of the Sturgeon.

The group gathered in a grassy



Crowd gathered along the shores of the Manistee River



Collection of gifts for the attendees - birch baskets, wild rice and more

is displayed on t-shirts that were distributed to the spectators and supporters present at the release.

"The seven stages of development portrayed in the logo could be interpreted as the Sturgeon life-cycle, but they are intended to represent the seven generations of Nm  and the long-term commitment on the part of this group and of the Tribe to the rehabilitation of the Sturgeon," Said Wilson, *"I also incorporated the symbolism of water in the four directions."* (Center of logo)

Jimmie Mitchell and Pat Wilson then performed a Pipe Ceremony and offered their prayers for the protection of the sturgeon and for the continuation of this effort to bring them back to the river. Pat Wilson expressed his happiness at seeing the Elders gathered to witness this event and at the presence of youth saying he hopes *"the young ones will continue to release [sturgeon]."*

Jimmie Mitchell spoke to the crowd of his joys and hopes:

clearing by the river and was then guided through the rearing facility. Children went from basin to basin pointing at little sturgeon frolicking in the pumped-up river water. Parents and other grownups seemed to be caught in the same wonder: eyes wide, peering through the shimmering water. All were respectful and almost solemn at the site of the prehistoric-looking fish. The crowd was then led to the riverfront where a drum marked the beat of generations of Anishinaabek that have come to these shores to watch the sturgeon. As said by Ogema Sprague; *"There was (...) a time when they (Nm ) were important [to our survival] and now it is important to them for us to do something [to ensure their survival]."*

A very different looking fish, the sturgeon already display the trademark brown blotches, long snout and ruffled tail that set them apart from any other fish and give them a prehistoric look.

The fish selected for release

were then carried to the river in buckets and pairs made up of an elder and a youth released them one at a time. The young sturgeon were carefully picked up and lifted above the crowd in cupped hands. They were presented to all four directions and gently offered back to their river.

It was a memorable occasion that the Little River Band and it's partners hope to repeat year after year until Nm  fill Michigan waters again and children can sing the traditional songs of thanks to this necessary part of Anishinaabek tradition.



*Above - Lee Sprague, Jimmie Mitchell, Israel Stone
Below - Signing the commemorative t-shirt*



Health - MENO MEESHEKE

by Sandy Lewis

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

Please follow three basic rules to ensure that Contract Health can fund co-pays.

- All members and descendants to age 19 must give 48 hour prior notices for all appointments in order for Contract Health to pick up any co-pays.
- Any emergency situation you must call within 72 hours of your emergency visit.
- Elders have 30 days to report any emergency (the sooner the better)

Please keep in mind our staff assists approximately 4500 members including descendants.

We would like to thank the Maintenance Department: Mick Moore, and Facilities Director Brian Gibson; Supervisor for dedicating your time at meetings with IHS to assess our building needs, De-Ahna Lewis; Administrative Assistant for keeping up with all of our paperwork. To all Maintenance Tech's: Clatus Clyne, John Shepard, Brian Moore, Josh Stone, and Mike Sprague. To Ben Hamilton and his Staff: Frankie Medacco, Ben Herr, and Al Patricio. Our new floors look great! Chi Megwetch to all of you for all the work you contributed to provide better services to our Community.

Tribal Council has recently approved \$2.5 million for a new medical facility. We look forward to our new building. We will all have to be patient for it is going to be a long but worthwhile process. When that time does come we will still own our building with all the equity built into it by all these caring employees striving for our brighter future.

We will keep you posted in the newsletter when we have a guided tour, Open House for all Members to view our improved facilities.

Chi Megwetch,

Sandy Lewis, Administrative Assistant
Tribal Health Clinic

Wanted:
Qualified HVAC Repair
and Service Providers.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
375 River Street
Manistee, MI. 49660
Phone: (231)723-8288

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is requesting proposals from **qualified HVAC Repair and Service Providers.**

CONTACT:

Questions regarding the quote and award should be directed to:

Ms. Michelle Lucas
Purchasing Supervisor,
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
(231) 398-6804.

Citizen Police Academy Presentation

As part of the Tribal outreach to work cooperatively with surrounding communities, Public Safety Director Joe LaPorte was invited by Mason County Sheriff Laud Hartrum to address the Ludington Citizens Police Academy in mid-August.

Meeting at the Ludington Police Department, Director LaPorte spoke to the assembled group about the Tribal Police Department. He described the department staffing, vehicles, training and past interaction in support of area departments.

Director LaPorte also told the group of some of the special concerns and challenges that face Tribal Police Officers as they carry out their duties on tribal lands that include the Little River Casino. As an example, he spoke about an increasing drug problem that is affecting not just the tribal authorities but area authorities as well.

LaPorte very proudly spoke about the level of training of the tribal officers and the fact that they all receive at least 80 hours of training per year, while other law enforcement agencies are forced to work with much less additional training. He also made sure to emphasize that the tribal officers go through the same MCOLES training as do all Michigan law enforcement officers. The point came through that the Tribal Police/Public Safety Department officers have actually received more training than many other departments, including some of those on a Federal level.

Director LaPorte also spoke about how the LRBOI Tribal Police are working with local agencies to improve safety for all residents of the area. He detailed the new VirTra Training system, the assistance of our snowmobile and quad officers and many other areas where we provide assistance. Year to date, the Tribal Police have responded to approximately 200 incidences where they have backed up or assisted other local departments. Sheriff Hartrum spoke strongly in support of the cooperation with the tribe.

LaPorte also fielded questions from some in the group about the tribe and misconceptions concerning activities not only about the tribal police but the tribe in general in the area. He said that he wondered, "...where is this still coming from? As a tribe and as tribal police we've helped the local community many times for the good of all people. The majority of the assembled group openly agreed with his sentiments.

Glenn Zaring
Public Information Director
gzaring@lrboi.com

SURVEY QUESTIONS & COMMENTS ANSWERED
Submitted by the Tribal Historic Preservation Department

The following questions and comments are from the recent Cultural Awareness Survey. We would like to note that we have published every question and comment (in bold) that was submitted; no entries were omitted. Some spelling and/or punctuation discrepancies were corrected. In order to keep our members informed, we would like to share them with you:

I would like to learn more about natural medicines and other activities. Thank you. (Grimesland, NC)
We appreciate your interest and hope that others are as eager to learn. We hope to provide more information on these areas in video format in the near future.

I would enjoy learning dreamcatchers, beadwork, black ash baskets, but I live some distance from the reservation and it appears most classes occur on week nights. (Ann Arbor, MI)
We appreciate your input and have noted that more events and classes should take place on the weekend to better accommodate our members and we will (try to) plan accordingly for future events.

I have taught first aid and CPR for 15 years, also water safety skills and swimming, (Atlanta, GA)
Miigwech for sharing this information with us.

I would like to learn how to speak our language. (Muskegon, MI)
If you don’t already have it, we encourage you to obtain a copy of the Tribe’s Anishinaabemowin CD-ROM by calling 231-690-3508. We are planning on expanding the CD-ROM and other programs. You may also visit the following website for fun learning and games: www.anishinaabemdaa.com. If you do not have a computer, we offer classes every Thursday from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm at the Little River Casino and every Tuesday from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm at the Tribal Historic Preservation classroom, located at 3031 Domres Road in Manistee, near the casino. You may also access the language hotline at 1-877-789-0993.

Help our members that are in prison or jail by giving support to help them get back to being right. Stop being selfish, overlook faults, find the good in people; help them not fight amongst ourselves. Give those teachings; being Little River members is all that should matter. Create a strong united Tribe. Teach everyone who wants to learn. (Muskegon, MI)
All Tribal events and teachings are open to all members, but unfortunately, at this time we do not have the resources to visit and teach our members that are incarcerated. We appreciate your comments and completely agree that everyone who wants to learn should be able to do so.

I love seeing the beautiful artwork and the paintings at Little River hotel. I would like to learn more about painting or drawing about my Ottawa Tribe. I could write or draw only a little bit of what my father told me. He made a few beautiful articles of his Native American life before he passed away in 2000. I wish I could have sent this survey sooner. (Kalamazoo, MI)
Artwork of all types is inherent to our culture. We encourage you to continue to write, draw or paint your father’s stories; this is one way to pass information and share with our future generations so it is not lost.

Glad that the department is asking what the people think. (Manistee, MI) Miigwech!

I want to learn everything but everything is given in Manistee. I can’t afford the gas. Megwetch! (Muskegon, MI)
In the future, we will try to coordinate some teachings in different areas. We are also seeking ways to improve “distance” learning for language and other programs. We suggest that maybe you could carpool to different events with other Tribal members living in your area. We’re sure everyone would agree with you on the price of gas; it hurts the wallet!

I would like to know more. If you have something I can read or watch, let me know so I can pick it up. I have requested a language cd but never heard about how or when I will receive it. (Belding, MI)
Since submitting your survey, we hope you have received your language CD-ROM. The Tribal Historic Preservation department has started to accumulate books and videos pertaining to the Native American culture and are available for reference, but cannot be removed from the office. If you would like to read any of the books or watch a video, you are more than welcomed to do so. Other information sources are being planned as well. Our office is open from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and is located at 3031 Domres Road in Manistee, near the casino.

I would like to see more legal help for those that are locked down as one way to show you have tribal support! There should be a drug test before handing out payments of any type. (Scottville, MI)
We appreciate your comments, but unfortunately, the Tribal Historic Preservation department does not handle any legal or financial issues. We have passed your comments on to the proper personnel.

I would like to see our cultural programs taught closer to the Muskegon area. I am very illiterate in these areas and would like to learn them. (Norton Shores, MI) In the future, we will try to coordinate some teachings in different areas. We suggest that maybe you could carpool to different events with other Tribal members living in your area. We are also researching other means for distance learning.

I would be interested in the storytelling and history learning of crafts. When my Indian father married my white mother, we were outcasts to the Tribe even though we are dark like our father and outcasts to white kids as well. I wish they would have better teachings in schools, other than death and stolen land to help other Indian children feel positive about themselves and that they do belong to this family, Tribe and country. (Portland, OR)
We completely agree with educating our non-native neighbors in hopes to dispel the stereotypical views of our people. Many of the Tribe’s events are open to the public with hope to educate those around us.

I did not grow up with cultural influences of Indian ancestry nor did my father. I feel it’s very important to preserve our culture; it would be great if some of the Elders would do more teachings so we are learning local traditions and not what other Tribes are doing down south and out west. I feel we have too much of the white man’s influence, but it’s kind of hard in this area when traditions weren’t handed down. I think people are just making it up as they go, but I guess that’s not all bad. (Freesoil, MI)
It would be great if more Elders could do teachings, but we would like to note that there are more people that know our culture than just our Elders. Teachings of any kind are beneficial since most teachings are similar to those of another Tribe or area. It is better to learn something than nothing at all. We agree too that it is indeed hard to pass on traditions if one did not grow up with them or they were passed on through the generations. We are working on other ways to pass traditions on as well.

I’ve always wanted to dance at the PowWow but am inhibited and feel like I need an invitation or something. Also, I have no jingle dress and it’d be wonderful if those of us who have no regalia could hook up with folks who do have regalia and/or make them. Thanks for sending this survey. It’s a must-have conversation among us members! (Davis, CA)
You do not need an invitation to dance at a Pow wow, but you do need regalia if you do dance. The only time you will be invited and don’t need regalia to dance is during Inter-Tribal dances, which everyone is encouraged to enter the circle and dance. Perhaps another Tribe in your area has a program to teach you how to make regalia since you live far from the Manistee, Michigan area. If you plan a trip this way, the Tribe does hold regalia classes every week in the beginning of the year; watch the newspaper for more information. We encourage you to research the differences in the styles of dance to find the one that would suit you best. Once you attend many Pow wows, make your regalia and get some experience, you will become accustomed to the dancing and no longer feel like you need an invitation.

I would love to attend a session on some different arts and crafts and learn cultural traditions. (Kiel, WI)
Watch the Tribal newspaper for future events and classes and we hope you are able to attend.

How is it that this is the only Tribal area we have any input on? Any other meeting my family has been to and gave input we are treated less than equal and basically ignored. In fact, the only person on Council who has even bothered to return a phone call or make contact period is Tammy Kleeman-Brown! (Cadillac, MI)
We have passed your comments on to the proper personnel.

I suggest housing grants, clothing grants and audio tapes of the language. Also, summer camps in a natural environment and language for young adults and children who may learn and participate in Native American culture, history, dance, music, stories, and make jewelry so they can pass the knowledge. (Rialto, CA)
Audio tapes can be obtained by contacting the Tribe’s language instructor, Kenny Pheasant, at 1-888-723-8288, ext. 2224. Also, every summer at the end of July, the Tribe has been hosting a Language and Culture Camp. The camp is open to the public, has free registration, provides free meals and offers many workshops pertaining to our culture, history, language, etc.

Send me as much material on our culture, traditions and customs so I can read and learn. I need to find a teacher in southeastern Michigan, who can teach me the ways of my people. I would like to participate in a sweatlodge, pipe ceremony, vision quest, and naming ceremony. I am on my walk down the red path and desperately in need of a spiritual teacher. (Ferndale, MI)
We are in the process of trying to gather more information and finding a way to distribute cultural information to our members. Since you are a distance away from the Manistee area, we suggest you try contacting another Tribe in your area to find a local teacher.

Have them (teachings, events) at the time when more members are available to attend, such as the membership meeting weekends, the weekend of the annual Pow wow and other times when special events are scheduled where more members are there. (Chicago, IL)
We have noted that more events and classes should take place at a time when members are more likely to be in the area to better accommodate our members and we will try to plan accordingly for future events. We would like to note that the Fall Membership meeting follows the Family and Community Wellness Conference, which is a 3-day event this year. Hopefully we will be able to see you from September 14 – 17th!

I live in Arizona; it would be impossible to partake in or for the tribe to present anything to me. (Tucson, AZ)
Watch the Tribal newspaper for information and if you have any particular questions, please feel free to contact the Tribal Historic Preservation department toll-free at 1-888-723-8288.

I’m sure I’m like a lot of other Ottawas whose parents were not teaching their children our language and trying to live in peace with the white. (I wish they had taught us.) My paper was torn badly so I don’t know if this was all there is. (Rhineland, WI) We appreciate your comments and hope that others as well as yourself are able to learn some bits of information to pass down to future generations. Hopefully we will be able to put forth more cultural information in the near future.

Living in Virgina, it is hard for me to get to any classes or teachings. I would love for someone to get in contact with me to teach me all you can about our culture. My grandfather (Arthur Pete) passed away before I could learn from him and my father doesn’t really know much. (Fredericksburg, VA)
We appreciate your interest and hope that others are as eager to learn. Hopefully we will be able to put forth more information in the near future. In the meantime, if you have any particular questions, please feel free to contact the Tribal Historic Preservation department toll-free at 1-888-723-8288.

We need to start having sweat lodges, vision quests and all traditional teachings that young Tribal members have heard of from Elders but were never able to participate in it due to lack of availability. (Whitehall, MI)
Hopefully we will be able to do more types of these cultural ceremonies and teachings in the near future.

He is only 10 years old. He hasn’t been educated about his American Indian background by his father’s choice. (Independence, OH)
We appreciate your response and hope that he will learn more about his heritage when he is no longer a minor. Perhaps you could assist your son in learning about his culture through the Tribal newspaper.

Continue printing basic knowledge of all customs and traditions. I am 74 years old and know little of my heritage. I want to learn as much as possible in my years remaining. I make one trip per year to Manistee from Arizona for a week. I need assistance from whomever and appreciate the opportunity to learn more. (Sedona, AZ)
We are happy to hear that you are able to make a trip a year to the area and are so eager to learn. We suggest that perhaps you would want to attend the Tribe’s Language and Culture Camp at the end of July each year. The camp is open to the public, has free registration, provides free meals and offers many workshops pertaining to our culture, history, language, etc.

Instruction on cultural traditions, ceremonies, arts and crafts, and language. (Inverness, FL)
We appreciate your input and hopefully we can continue and enhance educating our members on these areas of our heritage.

Everything you guys do or have going on sounds interesting but its so far away - 4 hour drive. (Fennville, MI)
In the future, we will try to coordinate some teachings in different areas. We suggest that maybe you could carpool to different events with other Tribal members living in your area.

Craft classes (quillwork, leather, etc.) and cultural classes (moon time, water teaching, creation story, pow wow etiquette). All classes need to be offered in Muskegon as well as Manistee. More people live in Muskegon, and some, such as myself, cannot make the drive to Manistee for these classes. (Grand Haven, MI)
In the future, we will try to coordinate some teachings in different areas, but they are currently concentrated in the Manistee area due to the location of the coordinators and budgetary constraints. We suggest that maybe you could carpool to different events with other Tribal members living in your area.

I see at pow wows that people do not follow certain rules regarding completing a circle after completing a dance by going under the ropes to get out faster. A place where outfits can be worked on. (Mears, MI)
The Tribal Community Center is open for scheduling if you’d like to meet with people to work on regalia. Also, the Tribe does hold regalia classes every week in the beginning of the year; watch the newspaper for more information.

People sitting around telling stories of what they were told or saw when they were growing up, especially our Elders! Tape record/video record/print in magazine. (Mint Hill, NC)
We have great news! The Tribe recently received a grant to document our Elders’ stories. So, in the near future we will be conducting these interviews, recording them and putting them in to a video for reference for future generations.

Having grown up and been raised in Florida, all I know about our people is what I have read in “Little River Currents”. I live in North Carolina at this time, but would like to move to Michigan and learn any and all that I have time left to learn. (Crouse, NC)
We will continue to provide you with information through the Tribal newspaper and hope that you will be able to move to the area and partake in the Tribe’s events.

Our Indian language should be taught to Tribal members and younger generations. Indian beading and our sacred traditions and our cultures should be handed down more and taught to learn the ways of the Indian traditions back in the day. (Grand Haven, MI)
We are working at trying to get more of our traditions and crafts taught to our members. If you don’t already have it, we encourage you to obtain a copy of the Tribe’s Anishinaabemowin CD-ROM by calling 231-690-3508 or toll-free at 1-888-723-8288. You may also visit the following website for fun learning and games: www.anishinaabemdaa.com. If you do not have a computer, we offer classes every Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm at the Little River Casino and every Tuesday from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm at the Tribal Historic Preservation classroom, located at 3031 Domres Road in Manistee, near the casino.

Guided hunts. I would be happy to be a guide. Information on all the things on the other side I am not aware of, the native stories, legends and language. (New Era, MI)
Guided hunts are a new request. We will take it into consideration for future classes. We hope that you are able to attend some of the Tribe’s events to obtain more information regarding our teachings and traditions.

<p>We’d love to see some per capita distributions. (Spring Arbor, MI) We have passed your comments on to the proper personnel.</p>
<p>I have a long time dream to become a jingle dancer but desire proper instruction to understand traditions of this type of dancer. Due to distance I am unable to participate often. Live internet connections during language, craft, tradition teaching programs which allow interaction or some type of long distance Elder mentoring program for youth. Young adults are my best chances to learn, interact and develop relations with other members. Would also like to see more “scholarships” to attend these type of learning experiences extended to members (child and adult) to enable attendance for those throughout Michigan and across the country. (Fayetteville, GA) We understand your situation and we have been contemplating using live internet classes so that more members around the country would be able to participate. We will also take into consideration your other ideas and thoughts for future planning and budgeting to help our members in further locations.</p>
<p>Would love to attend attractions, but please have it in Muskegon. The gas cost is so much; it is easier to get to. (North Muskegon, MI) In the future, we will try to coordinate some teachings in different areas. We suggest that maybe you could carpool to different events with other Tribal members living in your area.</p>
<p>Everything we do to preserve our culture and ways of life are of the most importance. My family and I appreciate everything you offer. Thanks. (Gaylord, MI) We completely agree with your comment and appreciate your gratitude. Miigwech! In the meantime, if you have any particular questions, please feel free to contact the Tribal Historic Preservation department toll-free at 1-888-723-8288.</p>
<p>Would like to see a Tribal ceremonial lodge built, cataloging and perserving documents and artifacts, and the teaching and practical application of the 7 grandfathers. (Manistee, MI) The Tribe currently has a fire lodge for ceremonies, but funding for a separate area for members to utilize will need to be included in future budgeting. The cataloging and preserving of documents and artifacts has been a slow process, but has started with the creation of the Tribal Historic Preservation department this year. Due to a lack of staff and essential office space and storage, the department has not been able to make substantial progress, but has been operating with the staff and location that is available. We would also like to note that the documents and artifacts that the department has received has been abundant and not in the best of organization; therefore, the process has been slower in organizing, recording and storing these items.</p>
<p><u>The Tribal Historic Preservation Department appreciates everyone’s questions, comments, and ideas. We hope that we have answered some of your questions and provided the information you were looking for. Please keep the surveys coming in! Miigwech!</u></p>

Thank you for your responses and comments, they are very much appreciated!
Tribal Historical Preservation

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS TRAINING - BATTLE CREEK

by Glenn Zaring - Public Information Director

Cooperation between all agencies and levels of government in a time of disaster or emergency is needed to make sure that everyone survives. This is the essence of what is called Emergency Management. This is also something that is essential, and in the news, with Homeland Defense. The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians recently was involved with a Federal Exercise to practice these principles. The Tribal Public Information Director, Glenn Zaring, also serves as the Public Safety (Tribal Police) Information Officer and as such was recently invited to observe and critique “School Daze 2005.” This event was a full-scale emergency exercise conducted in Calhoun County (MI) with the Hart-Dole-Inoye (HDI) Federal Center (DLA/DLIS) including over 18 different area agencies, groups, and the media. The exercise overview described the event, “A terrorist attack employing con-

ventional explosives and a biological agent occurs at Battle Creek Central High School, located within 2000 feet of the HDI complex.” When the call went out on August 31st at 8 a.m. the full area Incident Command System (ICS) kicked into play and every official in the region got very busy trying to contain the situation and provide for the safety of all people in Battle Creek. Zaring said, “This style of exercise tests every aspect of your EmOps (Emergency Operations) plan. It is done so that you can spot the problems and fix them before a real emergency occurs.” “As a member of the Tribal Emergency Planning Committee, Building Security Workgroup and ex-officio member of the LEPC it helps to see how other jurisdictions handle their inter-departmental cooperation. I picked up some valuable experience that will definitely help with our planning”, he added.

LRBOI Ogema Lee Sprague, in commenting on tribal participation, added that, “one other aspect of this opportunity which thrilled us was the ability to interact as a federal government working with other federal, state and local governments. Together we can accomplish some wonderful things.” Tribal Public Safety Director Joe LaPorte was glad to see this participation. “Having our PIO invited to assist with a Federal Exercise is just another example of how the tribe as a sovereign nation and entity is working in a cooperative fashion with other jurisdictions,” he said. Zaring has extensive EmOps and Security Architecture experience and has worked with the HDI Federal Center in the past. He helped design the 2003 HDI exercise, “October Frost ’03.” Zaring also took part as an Emergency Management Planning expert with the (MI) Region 7 exercise in Northern Michigan in 2004.

MID-YEAR STATE OF THE TRIBES FINANCES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS:

by Duane Hopkins - Chief Financial Officer

Financial Operations:

Operationally the Finance Division has been busy on many fronts during the first half of 2005. This includes staff training, making improvements in employee benefits, laying the groundwork for a comprehensive property management program, and evaluating professional investment advisors. Ongoing training of staff was an important part of the activities for the period. Each staff member was involved in one or more training programs. Finance Division employees took part in trainings and conferences in the areas of payroll compliance, business writing, accounting and finance issues, risk management, audit preparation, indirect cost and budgeting. On-site training programs offered to LRBOI staff in the areas of grants management (2 sessions) and record-keeping were also attended by various members of the Finance Division staff. In addition, a specialized week long on-site training was conducted by the accounting software vendor where each employee was given training in the use of the system related to their specific job functions. In the area of employee benefits many improvements were made which will result in substantial savings. The health, dental, vision, life, disability, and accidental death benefits of government and casino employees were combined to gain

buying power for the organization. The health insurance plans were changed to a self-funded model, which allowed benefits to remain unchanged while positioning the organization save an estimated \$1 million annually going forward. Consolidation of the dental and vision plans was accomplished while reducing costs by \$45,000 annually. Short-term disability coverage, which had not been available since 2004 when the carrier canceled the coverage, was added to the government employee benefit package. This addition was accomplished with a cost reduction of over \$11,000 annually in the total life, disability, and accidental death benefits by using the combined purchasing power of the government and casino. A new Property Management Department was formed within the Finance Division in late 2004. During the first half of 2005 a complete inventory of all fixed assets including buildings, land, and furniture and fixtures was accomplished. For the first time since the tribe was recognized in 1994 a complete accounting of all assets is available. To maintain these records a new module has been added to the automated accounting system and processes are being put in place to keep current records of all fixed assets. As a result of this process all vehicles owned and operated by the tribe were identified and insur-

ance coverage was adjusted to accurately reflect these assets. This change resulted in a refund of over \$5,000 from the insurance carrier and will ensure that proper records are kept on these assets which will minimize insurance costs in the future. In February a plan was presented to the Ogema and Tribal Council to develop a formal investment strategy and hire a professional investment firm. Previously the tribe has had no formal investment program or policies, which has resulted in minimal earnings on funds held. With the support of the Ogema and Tribal Council a comprehensive nationwide selection process has been undertaken to identify a professional advisory firm who will work with tribal leaders to develop investment policies that are expected to significantly enhance earnings. A special work group was formed under the direction of the Ogema to evaluate candidates for the investment advisory function. This group will be bringing forward a recommendation that is expected to receive the support of the Tribal Council. Once selected the advisory firm will work with a designated investment oversight group to develop and implement a thorough investment plan. The final make-up of the investment oversight group has not yet been defined. Fieldwork for the 2003 fiscal year audit was completed

during the period. However, progress was slowed on the audit catch-up project as errors were found in the 2001 audit that was published in January, which will require it to be reissued. All audits through 2004 are now targeted for completion by year-end. Other items of significance handled by the Finance Division during the first half of 2005 included: Implemented a formal quarterly budget update report that covers all budget activities; Processing of Community Well Being and Support payments for all tribal members; Processing of Elders Assistance payments for all elders; Preparation of a comprehensive financial analysis of 50%, 30%, and 10% per-capita payment plans; Evaluation of financing options for Phase II expansion of the LRCCR; Annual budget training was held for all program directors and preparation of the FY-06 budget is on track for submission within regulatory timelines; Back-up training was completed for all positions within the Division which allows for uninterrupted operations in case of employee absences; and a committee has been created to review and improve all forms utilized by the Division with the goal of increasing efficiency and accuracy across all departments of the government.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCES

KENT COUNTY		NEWAYGO COUNTY	
YWMCA Domestic Crisis Center		WISE	
	(616) 459-4681		Crisis (231) 796-6600
	Crisis (616) 451-2744		Or (800) 374-9473
LAKE, MASON, AND OCEANA COUNTIES		OTTAWA COUNTY	
Region Four Community Services		Center for Women in Transition	
	Crisis (800) 950-5808		Crisis (616) 392-1970
			Or (800) 848-5991
MANISTEE COUNTY		WEXFORD COUNTY	
CHOICES		OASIS/Family Resource Center	
	Crisis (231) 723-0082		Crisis (231) 775-7233
MUSKEGON COUNTY		LRBOI Domestic Violence	
Every Women's Place		Prevention Program	
	Main (231) 759-7909	Toll free	(888) 382-8299
	24 hr Crisis (231) 722-3333	Direct	(231) 398-6614

Nurturing your child’s self-esteem

by Julie Wolfe - Youth Prevention Counselor

A feeling of self-worth lays the foundation for your child’s future. Self-esteem comes from having a sense of belonging, believing that we’re capable, and knowing our contributions are valued and worthwhile. Sometimes we feel good about ourselves and sometimes we don’t. Our goal as parents is to ensure that our children develop pride and self-respect — in themselves and in their cultural roots — as well as belief in the ability to handle life’s challenges. Here are nine simple strategies to help boost your child’s self-esteem:

Give unconditional love. A child’s self-esteem flourishes with the kind of no-strings-attached devotion that says, “I love you, no matter who you are or what you do.” Your child benefits the most when you accept him/her for who he/she is regardless of his/her strengths, difficulties, temperament, or abilities.

Pay attention. Give your child your undivided attention; it does wonders for your child’s self-worth because it sends the message that you think your child is important and valuable.

Teach limits. Establish a few reasonable rules. Just be clear and consistent.

Offer choices. Let your child choose between two possibilities. Letting your child know that you have faith in his/her judgment increases your child’s sense of self-worth.

Support healthy risks. Encourage your child to explore something new; though there’s always the possibility of failure, without risk there’s little opportunity for success.

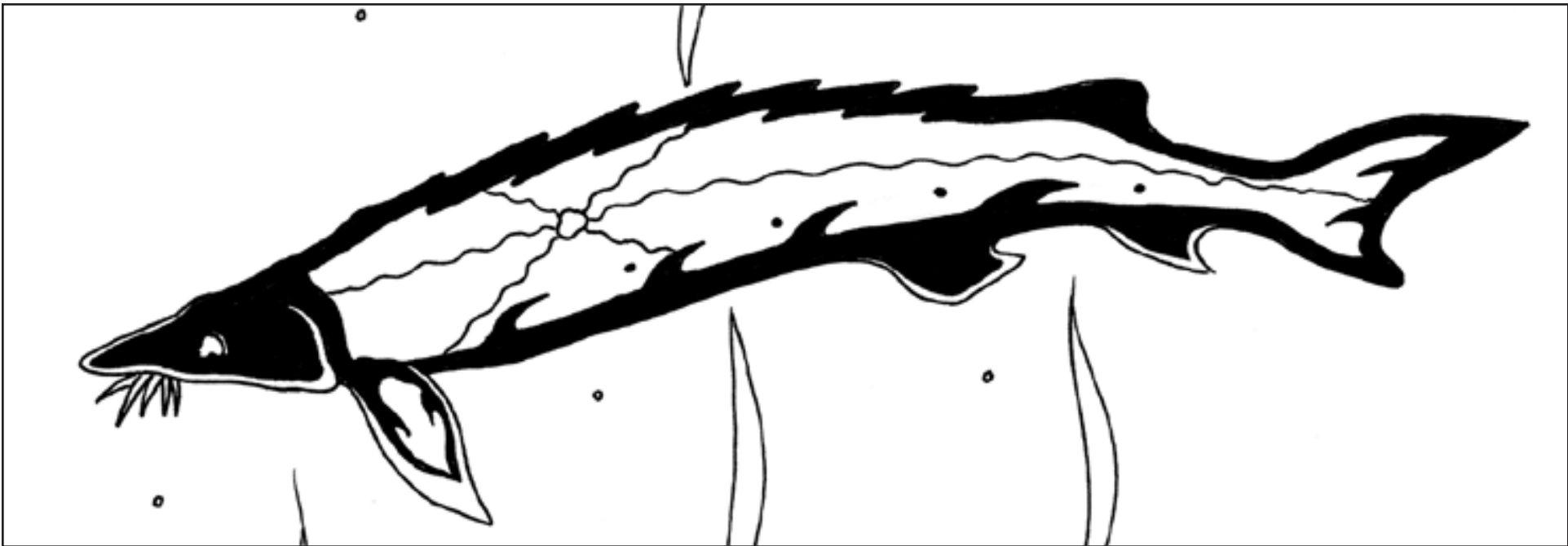
Let mistakes happen. Your child is bound to make mistakes sometimes. These are valuable lessons for your child’s confidence.

Celebrate the positive. Everyone responds well to encouragement, so make an effort to acknowledge the good things your child does every day. This will enhance his/her sense of accomplishment and self-worth.

Listen well. If your child needs to talk, stop and listen to what he or she has to say. Children need to know that their thoughts, feelings, desires, and opinions matter.

Provide Encouragement. Encouragement means acknowledging progress. Remember there’s a difference between praise and encouragement. One rewards the task while the other rewards the person (“You did it!” rather than “I’m proud of you!”). So offer encouragement generously, it will help your children grow up to feel good about themselves.

Color your Sturgeon - *Nmé*





Bay Mills Community College

12214 W. Lakeshore Drive, Brimley, MI 49715
Phone (800) 844-BMCC — Fax (906) 248-3351

FREE!!!

As a demonstration of our commitment to providing educational opportunities to Native American students throughout the United States,
Bay Mills Community College is offering a 3 credit, online course titled:

NA110-Native Americans: Sharing Our Culture and Traditions

AT NO CHARGE!!!

This is your chance to try an online college course and earn 3 college credits, with no out-of-pocket expense.



Phone: 231-723-8288 or Toll Free 888-723-8288
Fax 231-398-6748

CHS and EHAP NEWS

Aanii. I hope that you all enjoyed your summer. Now is the time to start thinking about the upcoming winter season and your flu shot. If we’re lucky, there won’t be a shortage of doses like last year. Be sure to talk to your healthcare provider as to whether or not you should receive a flu shot. I have a few announcements and some of the usual reminders.

Our offices have moved. The ladies are no longer in the small office space on the porch. We are all located in the former Be-Da-Bin hallway. I must apologize because there were times when we could not get to the phone or our files during the move. So if you happened to be one of the members who could not get through or have us find your information in a timely manner, I thank you for being patient with us.

If you have not received your reassessment or received it after the August 8th due date, please do not panic. You will not be inactivated for our oversight. Thank you again for your patience regarding this matter. If you are in doubt as to whether or not we have received your reassessment, please call the office.

We will be short-staffed for a while in Contract/Extended Health. Sandy Renner is out for an extended leave. Juanita Antoine will be leaving September 12th for approximately 4 weeks. So, I have divided up Sandy’s section of the alphabet as follows:

A thru D and E thru F
SL thru Z and G
KL thru N and K thru KI
O thru SK and H thru J

Cindy Drake
Karla Battice
Kathy Berentsen
Juanita Antoine

While Juanita is gone we will all be covering her section. Please be patient with us as we try to muddle through. As for the reminders, you have all been great getting your reassessments back completed and signed (those of you who received them, anyway).

Remember to call ahead for any regularly scheduled appointments that you may have. We need to know **AT LEAST** 48 hours in advance for a **SCHEDULED** appointment. You have 72 hours to report an emergency **AFTER** you sought treatment. The emergency is not guaranteed payment until the emergency room notes are received and gone over by the Managed Care Committee. Finally, if you need to leave a voicemail message, please remember to identify yourself and leave your phone number. It is hard for us to recognize voices on the machine sometimes. Please contact the office with any questions or concerns you may have. The toll free number is 1.888.382.8299. The direct line is 231.723.8299. Miigwech.

Respectfully submitted by
Gina Wright,
CHS/EHAP Supervisor



ZIIBIWING CENTER OF ANISHINABE CULTURE & LIFEWAYS

6650 E. Broadway • Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Open Monday through Saturday 10 am - 6 pm

For more information please call: 1-800-225-8172 Ext. 1-54750



SEPTEMBER 2005

Thursday, September 22 • 11am - 2pm

Collection Showing

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan is world renowned in the art form of stone sculpting. Galleries and private collectors around the globe exhibit the work of our local artisans. The unyielding spirit of these artisans is demonstrated through this challenging and demanding medium. Our featured artists include Dennis Christy, Daniel Mena, Sam Pego, Jason Quigno, Phil Sprague, and Terry Vasquez. Friday

Friday, September 30

“Enduring Spirit of Our People”

This exhibition of historical and contemporary photographs of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan will provide a visual representation of the tribe’s people and important events. The “Enduring Spirit of Our People” photograph exhibit encompasses two locations - Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and the Ziibiwing Center.

OCTOBER 2005

Friday, October 7 • 10am - 6pm
October 8 • 10am - 6pm
October 9 • 10am - 4pm

Indigenous Peoples Art Market Saturday
Indigenous Peoples Art Market Sunday
Indigenous Peoples Art Market

THE ZIIBIWING CENTER IS NORMALLY CLOSED ON SUNDAYS
BUT WILL REMAIN OPEN FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT!

5th Annual Re-Affirmation Day Celebration

The Tribal Council is hosting an event to commemorate the Re-Affirmation of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. You and your family are invited to attend an event that will include a feast and featured speakers.

Date: Saturday, September 24, 2005

Time: 4:00 p.m. Hors D'Oeuvres
5:00 p.m. Feast with program following

Where: Little River Casino Resort
Three Fires Conference Center
Manistee, MI

Please RSVP to Mary Bower at (888) 723-8288 ext. 6847
Come Celebrate Re-Affirmation Day with your family!



Tribal Artists!

The Little River Casino wants to display your art!

The Casino and Hotel would like to display your art in their new rooms and in the new Cultural Center.

Call or e-mail Mark's office and set a time to bring in your portfolio, photographs and possibly samples to be considered

Please contact:

Mark Wilson

Special Projects Manager

Little River Casino Resort

231-398-3968 - Office Phone

231-723-4440 - Office Fax

markw@lrcr.com - e-mail

LRBOI Direct Contact Numbers			
Ogema's Office	231-398-6824	Prosecuting Attorney	231-398-3384
Tribal Council	231-398-6845	Public Safety	231-398-3413
Elaine Porter	231-398-6833	Tribal Court	231-398-3406
Kimberly Alexander	231-398-6835	Peacekeeping	231-398-3397
Shanon Crampton	231-398-6849	Education	231-398-6724
Steve Parsons - Speaker	231-398-6830	Elders	231-398-6709
Norbert Kelsey	231-398-6828	Enrollment	231-398-6713
Janine Sam - Recorder	231-398-6834	Food Commodities	231-398-6715
Don Koon	231-398-6831	Housing	231-398-6730
Israel Stone	231-398-6807	Human Resources	231-398-6704
Accounting	231-398-6878	Warriors Society	231-398-6720
Economic Development	231-398-6806	Be-Da-Bin	231-398-6604
Election Board	231-398-6852	CHR Office	231-398-6629
Grants	231-398-6870	Clinic Operations	231-398-6630
Legal	231-398-6822	Contract Health	800-723.8299
Member's Assistance	231-398-6731	Family Services	231-398-6621
Planning	231-398-6810	Natural Resources	231-723-1594
Public Information	231-398-6840	Gaming Commission	231-723-7755
Reception	888-723-8288	Tribal Historic Preservation	231-398-2221
Language	231-398-9378	Toll Free	888-723-8288
Language Hotline	877-398-2224	Health Toll Free	888-382-8299
		Little River Casino Resort	888-568-2244



by J. GUENTHARDT

Aanii! I hope all of you entrepreneurs and business owners are ready for the next step. The Small Business Incentive Task Force has been working on submission guidelines for the business relocation and start-up ordinance that is available on-line or from council.

For those ready to start a business or planning the expansion of an existing business, want to better understand business financial statements, or are ready to take a business to the next level, West Shore Community College offers help through a Fundamentals of Entrepreneurship course to be held from Oct. 3 through Nov. 3. Taught by Ron Steiner, Michigan State University Extension Agent, the course is a 12-session training program designed to encourage business expansion in a community and will focus on teaching the art of better business practices while producing a comprehensive business plan to guide business expansion decisions and activities.

The entire process of originating a business will also be studied from identifying opportunities to completing a business plan to getting started. Key topics will include start-up options, forms of business ownership, financing a new venture, financial management, selecting a location, marketing, regulatory compliance, and understanding fundamental principles of business.

The course will be held on Monday and Thursday from 6 – 9:30 p.m. in room 204 of the College’s Technical Center and may be taken for college credit (BENT 115-21) or as a non-credit community service class (WSCS 930-21). Fundamentals of Entrepreneurship are an NxLevel training program designed to encourage business expansion in a community and is administered by the Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center. Registration for the course can be completed by visiting the campus or calling the Student Services office at 231-845-6211, extension 3113.

The Internal Revenue Service now has a one-stop, on-line resource for small business and the self-employed. The site includes an online classroom and information on topics such as Employment Taxes for Businesses, Office of Taxpayer Burden Reduction (TBR), Small Businesses New Retirement Plan Resource Guide, Starting, Operating, or Closing a Business, and More! The web address is <http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/index.html>

As always, feel free to call: 231-398- 6608, Nita Guenthardt, Economic Development Coordinator, for updates or information. Megwetch!

Wanted:

Qualified Electric Repair and Service Providers

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
375 River Street
Manistee, MI. 49660
Phone: (231)723-8288

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is requesting proposals from **qualified Electric Repair and Service Providers.**

CONTACT:

Questions regarding the quote and award should be directed to:
Ms. Michelle Lucas
Purchasing Supervisor,
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
(231) 398-6804.

REMINDER

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND TRIBAL ID NUMBER IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE WITH TRIBAL DEPARTMENTS.

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR PHONE NUMBER WHEN YOU LEAVE A VOICEMAIL MESSAGE WITH ANY TRIBAL DEPARTMENT.

WE DO NOT ALWAYS HAVE READY, EASY ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION, IT COULD SPEED THINGS UP FOR YOU IF YOU INCLUDE YOUR COORDINATES IN ALL INTERACTIONS WITH THE TRIBE

PLEASE ALSO MAKE SURE THAT YOUR UPDATED ADDRESS IS ON FILE WITH ENROLLMENT. THIS IS IMPORTANT BOTH FOR YOU AND FOR ANY CHILDREN THAT ARE TRIBAL MEMBERS.

Currents Submission Coupon

Please fill out the following coupon, cut it out, and mail it to; Little River Currents 375 River St., Manistee, MI 49660
Dedications we receive will be published in the next available newspaper issue.

Name:_____ Tribal ID #:_____

Daytime Phone #:_____

_____ Birthday/Belated Birthday

_____ Birth Announcement

_____ Other _____

_____ Anniversary/Wedding

_____ School/College Achievement

Write your dedication text out completely, for example: “Happy 60th Anniversary, Aunt Mary and Uncle Harry, April 1, 2004. From your family and friends.” Dedications are printed EXACTLY as printed in the box below.

Happy Birthday!



Happy Birthday Tom Herr -
- From your ever lovin buddies, and you know who we are!!!

Happy Birthday Stephanie Ogren !
- From Melissa, Misty, Sara, Darrin, Marcella, Marty, Mark, Jimmie, Frank and many, many more.....

Happy Birthday Spring Tuttle (aka Summer, Autunm & Winter) #*%@ You!!!
- Love, Misty, Melissa and your Ma!!!

Happy Birthday Frank Beaver! - We saw what you did after you docked your kayak!!! You never know who’s a watching!!!
- Love, M & M

Happy Birthday Matt Willea !
-Love, Aunt Angie, Hannah, and Mathew

Happy Birthday to Mathew Sandel! (October 4 th)
You are 5 Years old!!!!!!
You are my favorite BOY in the whole wide world!
-We love you! Love Mommy Eagle and Hannah Sandel

Happy 18th Birthday Dane Heller! (October 3rd.)
Congratulations on class president!
-Love, Mom, Dad, Reid, Noelle and Raegan

Happy Birthday to our Dingy!!!!
- Love you bunches, Mom and Dad

Happy Birthday to my son, Jeremy Lyrenmann
- I love you, Mom

Happy Birthday to my nephew, Wesley Maloy
I Love you, Aunt Nita

Happy Birthday Michael (October 5th)
- Love Nita

Happy Belated Birthday!

Happy Belated 50th Birthday Maudy! (September 28th)
- Love always, Mike, Budha, Jonathan, Bobby, Val, Tammy, Ashlee, Amya, & Squeak

Rick,
Wishing you a belated Birthday, and congratulations on your pilot’s license.
We are so proud of you.
-Love you bunches, Mom & Dad

Birth Announcement

Crystal and Jeff Jurik,
Thank you, for our little miracle Grandson, Congratulations!!
Tyler Jeffery Jurik born July 13, 2005
-Love you, Mom and Dad



Wedding



Congratulations to Hunter and Veronica Lewis, Married July 1st, 2005 in Pueblo, Colorado

Thank you ...



I want to thank everyone for their kind words, gestures and contributions during our time of grief. God Bless you all.
- Darlene Pineda, children and grandchildren

Thank you Brian Moore & Sean Moore for your help at our staff luncheon. We don’t know what we would’ve done without your help.
Grants Dept & First floor Receptionist

To Marty, Stephanie and the rest of the Sturgeon Gang,
Thank you all so much for your dedication and committment. Our Elders were smiling down on you all Saturday.
I am so proud of you all,
Marcella Leusby

UPDATE ON THE CONSTRUCTION AT THE CLINIC BUILDING:

New flooring is being installed over the old asbestos tiles; carpeting and vinyl, and the floor wax looks great;

A new records room is being configured in the clinic area;

New paint is being applied to examination areas, etc;

The departments are in the process of moving into other areas of the building, this will occur over the next three-four weeks;
A new West Porch is under construction;

New Ceiling panels and light fixtures have been installed in the hallways;

Many thanks to the hardworking maintenance crew of LRBOI: Brian Gibson, Mike Sprague, Clatus Clyne, Pat Wilson, Josh Stone, Ben Hamilton, John Shepard, Brian Moore, Jason Moore and Mick Moore.

Future work includes:

Installation of new HVAC;

Installation of New Roofing;

Installation of a HIPAA compliant reception area;

New windows on the front porch areas;

Installation of a power assisted door for improved handicap access;

And there are a few more items that we are working on!

The funding source for all this work is the Indian Health Service, for a total of \$181,999.00 in building improvements. No Tribal Revenue is dedicated to these projects.

Jessica L. Burger, RN
Health Director

Thanks guys,

For all the rotten weather and good food and good friendships, we forged through, on the porch.

For the cold winter mornings, when the air conditioner screen was off, on the porch.

For the trips to the coffee pot to warm up, and the line to the bathroom, when we were down to one.

The arguments and flowers, the laughter and the tears... (Of joy, when spring arrived)

You get the drift, our times together were a true gift, and now I only have my thoughts of you to give my day a lift. - Gwaabmin.

The radio was the lifeline some days on the porch. And only warm thing in the office some mornings. We started hearing the first contest—I think jingle bells, and started a chain calling in. The guys learned our names, and we started talking when we had a break, some days we signed in for each other if someone was busy. Cindy won the steak dinner and music night for six, last year, we all went

together and shared some fun. Juanita won the Badger tickets, to get home to her family next month.

The radio was a life line. The stresses of hearing heart-wrenching stories from members who call to get their medicine renewed, or share the trauma that has struck a family member. Or sometimes the calls from our dear elders, sharing their melancholy day, with family far away and time on their hands. The break, the bells and whistles and jingles

101.5 gave us the lift to start every morning and give our best to our members. I can't think of too many jobs that command the loyalty of the CHS workers. Everyone does their best to protect the health of their members, even to the point of calling their mothers if they are not following the rules (right Cindy?)

Nita Guenthardt
Economic development
Coordinator, LRBOI
nguenthardt@lrboi.com

A NEW QUEEN IS CROWNED

A new queen was crowned at the 39th Annual National Coho Salmon Festival.

After weeks of preparation, the hard work paid off when Brianne Lindsay was crowned the 2005 National Coho Salmon Festival Queen.

Contestants were tasked with locating a sponsor, completing a Scholarship Application and Scholarship Essay, and attendance at events such as a tour of the Fish Hatchery, Float Building, Dance Practice, Meet the Candidates Night, an Ice Cream Social, a Car Wash fundraiser, a Special Game Show Style Question and Answer event, the Queens Candidate Luncheon with the Judges, a Teen Dance, and Coronation Night Activities.

Brianne is the daughter of Brian and Connie Lindsay of Beulah, and a Junior at Benzie Central High School, where she is very active with sports and student council. She was sponsored by PictoPix Photograph Solutions of Traverse City, A. Papanos Pizza in Beulah, and Bucky's Ice Cream also in Beulah.

The Coronation Ceremony took place on Friday August 26 in Honor, where Brianne Lindsay was crowned the new National Coho Queen by outgoing queen Stephanie Cote. The new queen was visible at festival activities including a parade through Honor on Saturday, Flea Market and Crafts, Big Tent Karaoke, and Childrens Activities.

Brianne will reign for one year, making appearances at other festivals and community functions.

Community members may learn about the Queens activities by visiting an on-line Photo Album of the National Coho Salmon Festival Queen at:

<http://www.PictoPix.com/album/CohoQueen/>

The site will feature photos of the various community functions that the Queen attends.



Little River Currents



MEGWAA EZHOWEBAAK *Binaakwe-Giizis (Falling Leaves Moon)*
October 2005, Vol. 2 Issue 10

Hurricane Katrina **TRIBE AND CASINO STEP UP TO THE PLATE WITH FUND-RAISING EVENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS.**



Water Tower Update!